ADJOURNMENT MOTION.

PRESIDENT: I have received notice from—for the adjournment of the business of the house for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, *viz.*, the alarm and unrest, created among the public, due to the alleged ill-treatment meted out to the prisoners in the Central Jail causing the sudden death of one of them just after the alleged quarrel between them and the jail authorities on Monday, the 8th Karkadagom 1114.

Mr. Chief Secretary, how does the position stand now?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: Sir, I have already explained to the House yesterday what actually happened. The Medical Certificate and the Postmortem Certificate are expected today. The matter is sub-judice.

PRESIDENT: Has any case been registered?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: Yes, a case has been registerd by the Police and the matter is under investigation.

PRESIDENT: As the matter is under investigation and the Police have registered a case, the matter is sub-judice and it is hoped that the investigation will bring all the facts to light. The matter being sub-judice, I rule the adjournment motion out of order.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

Demand I—Land Revenue and Taxes on Income.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I rise to move for a grant of Rs. 10,51,949 under Demand I—Land Revenue and Taxes on Income.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I move for the reduction of the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowance by Re. 1. The object of my motion is, as is stated, "To discuss the desirability of relieving the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner of his duties as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies so as to make mistravelling more beneficial to the tax-payers in the State." Sir, the Land Revenue and Income Tax Department, is no doubt, one of the most important branches of the administration of the State and also the biggest Department. It is seen from the Administration Report for the year 1113 that even a full time Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner was able to be in camp only for 90 days during the year. It is the supreme duty of the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by virtue of his travelling to be convinced of the actual needs and sufferings of the ryots in the State. Sir, he has, during his travel as at present circumstanced to perform duties in three different capacities, that is to say, one in the capacity of the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner and another in the capacity of the Registrar of the Co-operative Societies. I am given to understand that he has been asked to discharge the duties of an arbitrator also in a very serious dispute involving the interests of Government to a very great extent. Therefore my submission, Sir, is that his travelling has not resulted in any substantial benefit to the tax-peayers in the State. Personally speaking, I have no reason to doubt the honesty or correctness of the present Land Revenue and Income-Tax Commissioner. But, Sir, I am in possession of certain documents which will tend to show that very serious scandals are rampant about his appointment as the arbitrator in that dispute.

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PRESIDENT: In what manner?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: That is to say that his appointment may not be quite conducive to the safeguarding of the interests involved in the matter of Government. I do not wish to express in detail all what I heard because I do not personally believe them and because it may not be fair on my part to definitely base my arugument solely on hearsay informations.

PRESIDENT: The honourable Member should realise that when a charge of this kind is levelled against any officer either the honourable member is to take the responsibilty of the charge or not to do so. The honourable member cannot say that he bases his charge on certain rumours or certain statement disown the responsibility for those statements because it would obviously place the officer concerned on the Government in a difficult position. Assuming for a moment that those charges are substantial then Government have done wrong in entrusting that responsible work to an officer of that kind. But if those charges are wrong they must be rebelled. To level such charges against an officer on rumours would be most embarassing to the officer concerned and to the Government. An experienced member like Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai surely should know that.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I too, am in a position to relaise all what you have started, Sir,

PRESIDENT: One thing more I may say in this connection. If His Highness's Government is to take cognizance of such rumours about an officer or to take action on memorials or petitions received against such officer without ascertaining facts I do not know where it will land us.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I believe that the present Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner has not sufficient legal qualification to tackle the most intricate questions of law and fact involved in the dispute. So I wanted to avail myself of this opportunity to bring this fact to the pointed attention of Government.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know the nature of the dispute and the parties concerned?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I am glad to answer that question. The nature of the dispute is with regard to the title and ownership of an extensive area of very valuable land belonging to Government to which the other party is attempting to lay some claims. The dispute is between Government on one side and Mr. Palamatom Thomas of Kottayam on the other.

PRESIDENT: It was a case in which both the Government and Dr. Thomas consented to have Mr. Ramachandra Rao as arbitrator.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: That is the information. So my request to Government is to see that scandals are avoided if possible under any circumstance.

PRESIDENT: How does it arise under T. A. to the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, during his travels as Registrar of Co-operative Societies the present Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner who is appointed as the arbitrator of the

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[Mr. Puliyoor T. P. Velayudhan Pillai]

said dispute stays with Mr. Thomas instead of travelling in those parts of the State for inspecting the working of the Co-operative Societies and make Societies feel their duties and responsibilities and the effect of his circuit.

To make my position more clear, the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner while on circuit may go to Kottayam and he may be rather inclined to stay with Dr. Thomas in his bungalow without going out for effective inspection works.

PRESIDENT: Why should he stay?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: That is the information Sir, and it is for the Land Revenue Commissioner to enlighten us with regard to the purpose for which he stays at the Doctor's.

PRESIDENT: Have you verified that information?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: That is what the information which I was able to gather.

PRESIDENT: Is the honourable member responsible for his statement?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, for my moral satisfaction I verified the information and I hold myself responsible for my statement?

PRESIDENT: Very well.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: So my submission is that it would be better to appoint one of the High Court Judges as arbitrator in the dispute.

PRESIDENT: Order, Order. I can well understand the argument to the effect that the labours of some officer in connection with an arbitration are so engrossing that it may leave him little time to look to other works. But to suggest that some other officer should be appointed comes under a separate discussion on the desirability of relieving the Income Tax Commissioner of the duties of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I will stop there:

PRESIDENT: The honourable member should have stopped much earlier.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, another point which I want to mention in this connection is that if he is retained as a full time Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner it would have been certainly possible for him to go on circuit at least once to Thiruvella which is my constituency to find out the real necessity for the creation of a Separate Chengannur taluk. Because he has to work in three different capacities he has not yet been able to devote so much attention in matters like this. Sir, it is a very long time since representations have been submitted to Government for the creation of separate Chengannur taluk. At least a separate sub-treasury should be established at Chengannur. Thiruvella is the biggest taluk in the State in point of the number of pakuthies. The present Thiruvalla taluk cousist of 27 pakuthies.

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PRESIDENT : I find on a perusal of the paper before me that this matter has been dealt with separately. I also find another cut motion regarding Chengannur. I would advise the honourable member to confine himself to the question of overwork for the Land Revenue Commissioner.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : In principle also Sir, the investing of the duties of two departmental heads with one and the same officer especially with the head of a very big Department is detrimental to the interests of the ryots and to the interests of the Government as well. So, it is high time for the Government to relieve the the present Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner of his duties as Registrar of Co-operative Societies. As regards the qualification of the present Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner to be the Registrar of Co-operative Societies also I do not wish to mention anything now as I may get an opportunity for doing it when we come to that Department. With these words I move my motion for the unanimous acceptance of the House.

MR. KESAVA PANICKER : Is the Land Revenue Commissioner to hear revenue cases?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : I am not going to answer that question.

MR. S. GOVINDA PILLAI : Sir, I would support the motion before the House. I would like to point out in this connection that the Co-operative Department is an important one, and as such the head of that department should be one who is specially qualified to fill that post. If I am correct, I think the present Financial Secretary was deputed to study the working of the Co-operative movement in other parts of British India before he took charge as Registrar of that department. At this time when the Co-operative Department is passing through a crisis it is better to appoint a person who has got a thorough working knowledge of the movement. Instead of doing that to entrust the head of major department of the State with the work is not conducive to the progress of the movement, or to the efficient working of his own department.

If the Land Revenue Commissioner is sufficiently vigilant he would have to go to all the pakuthies to be in touch with the taxpayers to know definitely what their real needs are and how the tax is collected from them. For this he will get no time so long as he is entrusted with the two fold duties. Sir, the manner in which tax is collected is most deplorable. The proverthicars remain in their offices and expect that the taxpayers should go to them and pay their dues. It is for the proverthicar to go and collect the taxes from house to house. If the Land Revenue Commissioner had sufficient time he could have gone to all the pakuthies and see for himself how the taxes are paid and whether the ryots are really capable of paying all that. With these few words I support the motion before the House.

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MR. P. S. MUHAMOD : സർ, മി. വേലായുധൻപിള്ളയുടെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. ഞാൻ ഇങ്ങനെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നതു് റവന്യൂ വകുപ്പിലെ അധിപനു അതിലെ നിയമങ്ങളെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു വേണ്ട പരിജ്ഞാനമില്ലെന്നുള്ള വിചാരംകൊണ്ടോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു താൽപ്പര്യങ്ങളെ സംരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിൽ അദ്ദേഹം അലസത കാണിക്കുന്നു എന്നുള്ള വിചാരം കൊണ്ടോ അല്ല. ഈ രണ്ടു സംഗതികളിലും അദ്ദേഹം മറ്റുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെപ്പോലെ തന്നെ യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവനും ഗവണ്മെൻറു താൽപ്പര്യങ്ങളെ പരിരക്ഷിക്കുന്നതിൽ ഉൽസാഹമുള്ളവനുമാണെന്നുള്ള വിചാരക്കാരനാണു ഞാൻ. ഇതിനു പുറമെ പരസ്പരസഹായ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള പരിജ്ഞാനമോ, അവയെപ്പറ്റി മനസിലാക്കാനുള്ള കെൽപ്പോ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനില്ലാ എന്നുള്ള വിചാരംകൊണ്ടുമല്ല ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നതു്. അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറല്ല ഇതിനെക്കാൾ വലിയ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകൂടി ഭരിക്കത്തക്ക കഴുത്തും ശേഷിയും സംഗതികൾ ഗ്രഹിക്കാനുള്ള സാമർത്ഥ്യവുംഉണ്ടു്. ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറു് കഴിഞ്ഞ ബഡ്ജറു സമ്മേളനത്തിൽ ചെയ്ത പ്രസംഗത്തിൽനിന്നുംമനസിലായതു പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിൻെറ നില വളരെപരിതാപകരമായ വിധത്തിലാണെന്നും അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഒന്നുകിൽ അവയെ അവസാനിപ്പിക്കണം, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പൂർവ്വാധികം ഭംഗിയാക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഒരു സൂചനയായിരുന്നു എന്നാണു്.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു് അധപതിക്കുവാനുള്ള കാരണം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരുടെ അപ്രാപ്തിയാണോ?

MR. P. S. MUHAMOD : അതു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞുവരുമ്പോൾ മനസിലാകും. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ജനങ്ങൾക്കു് ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു് പ്രയോജനപ്പെടത്തക്കവിധത്തിൽ പരിഷ്കരിപ്പിച്ചു് മുന്നോട്ടുകൊണ്ടുവരണമെങ്കിൽ ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻതന്നെ അതിലേക്കു ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം. അതിൻെറ എല്ലാ വിവരങ്ങളേയും നല്ലവണ്ണം പഠിച്ചു് മേലാലെങ്കിലും നല്ല നിലയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരാൻ വേണ്ട ശ്രമം ചെയ്യത്തക്ക സൗകര്യം ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കണം.

എൻെറ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. ജോസഫ് കുഞ്ഞു് ഇതിനു മുൻപുണ്ടായിരുന്ന അദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരുടെയൊ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇരിക്കുന്ന അദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻെറയൊ അലസതകൊണ്ടല്ലേ ഈ രീതിയിൽ എത്തി

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യത് എന്നു ചോദിച്ചു. ഇതിനുമുൻപിരുന്ന അദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരേയും ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷനേയും തമ്മിൽ നോക്കുകയാണെങ്കിൽ രണ്ടുകൂട്ടരും ഇതിനു കുറക്കാരല്ല എന്നു വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നവനാണ് ഞാൻ. പിന്നെ മറ്റു രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിനു വന്ന അപജയം ഇവിടെയും വന്നു എന്നെയുള്ളു. ഈ അപജയത്തിന്റെ കാരണം മനസിലാക്കുകയും അതു പരിഹരിക്കുകയും ചെയ്കയുള്ളതാണ് ഇവിടെ ആവശ്യം.

ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുതന്നെ ഏറ്റവും വലുതായ ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറാണ്. ജനങ്ങളുടെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കായി പലതും പ്രവർത്തിക്കേണ്ട പല സംഗതികളും റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ എന്ന നിലയിൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനിരിക്കേ പരസ്പരസഹായ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകൂടി അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ ചുമലിൽവച്ചാൽ അതു കാര്യക്ഷമമായി ചെയ്യാൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാതെ വന്നേക്കും. അതുകൊണ്ട് റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെയും കോഓപ്പറേറ്റിവ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെയും വിജയകരമായ പുരോഗതിക്കുവേണ്ടി ഇവ രണ്ടിനും പ്രത്യേകം പ്രത്യേകം മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരുണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയാണു നല്ലതെന്നുള്ള വിശ്വാസംഎനിക്കുള്ളതുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, I oppose the motion. In opposing it I have two main reasons to mention. Of course I do not for one moment dispute the fact that the Co-operative Department is a big department, and I do not minimise its importance. Yet, this Department at its present stage can be safely entrusted to the charge of the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner. I understand from the speeches of various honourable members who supported the motion that the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner lacks that knowledge in co-operation which is essential to an officer who is to control and guide that department. Sir, I may, in this connection state that the principle and the object of the Co-operative Movement is not new or very difficult to understand. The important principles of the movement can easily be understood by any painstaking officer in one or two months and they can be gathered from any text book on the subject. That does not require any particular technical skill or scientific knowledge. At best what is essentially wanted is that real frame mind for co-operation, and an heart to heart sympathy with the people. If that is guaranteed co-operative principles can be understood and worked up successfully. And we heard yesterday from the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner that except for a couple of hundred societies all the rest numbering about 1,400 deserve to be liquidated at once. That is what he gathered from the working of the societies. Only about a couple of hundred societies which are mostly noncredit societies

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[Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai.]

deserve to exist and all the others are to be liquidated and wound up without delay. In South Travancore also there are societies that deserve to be liquidated. As Land Revenue Commissioner in his tour in South Travancore he has had occasion to visit almost all the societies in the South and I found that it was very easy for him to understand how the Co-operative societies in our rural parts are working, and he was able to distinguish between good and bad societies. Therefore he is in every way fit to be in charge of this Department. Further it saves money for his tour expenses and travelling allowances as it would other wise cost allowances for two officers, one for the Registrar and the other for the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner. I hope Hon. members will bear this aspect of the question that tax payers money should not be frittered away in unnecessary expenditure.

Here is a very desirable policy of retrenchment. If there is any possibility of a Registrar being appointed at this stage, I will on these grounds oppose it. I am well experienced in co-operative movement. I know that all that is necessary is the creation of co-operative spirit in the minds of the public and not (scientific or technical knowledge) in the officer. Ofcourse the officer has got to be patriotic and sympathetic. If the idea is to safeguard the interests of the public fund, I do not think that this House will support this motion, as it is a matter of avoidable expenditure.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN : Sir, I wish to make a few observations and it is in the light of the statement made by the Dewan President in the joint session of the Assembly and Council. It was stated by the Dewan President that the idea is to see that the Agricultural Department and the Co-perative Department are worked in such a way as to uplift the agricultural and rural population and if the agricultural and Co-operative sections do not serve these purposes, it is high time that these two sections are removed from the list. I may observe here that if the idea of the mover of this motion is that by taking away the Co-operative Department from the control of the present Land Revenue Commissioner, it is to see that the Co-perative Department is to work in conjenction with the Agricultural Department so that the nationbuilding programme of the Government as envisaged by the Dewan-President is to be brought into effect immediately I am one with the mover. If that is not the view, I may suggest that there is no necessity for taking away this Department from the hands of the Land Revenue Commissioner at present. We know as a matter of fact, Sir, that the problem of the rural population is most vital to the nation, that agriculture has fallen far below expectations and that intensive cultivation is to be resorted to and that cultivation on co-operative basis has to be adopted on account of the piecemeal division of the land in the country and that credit on co-operative basis has to be extended to the peasants so that cultivation may be done on more profitable lines. These are the useful and high schemes that the Government have in view when it has been observed by the Dewan-President, that the Government

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mean by improving the Agricultural and Co-operative Departments to rebuild the countryside and relieve the agricultural classes of their present deplorable condition. If that is the view of the mover of this motion, I may very gladly support him. If that is not the idea, if we are going simply to take away the Co-operative Department from the hands of the present Land Revenue Commissioner and entrust it to some other individual and give him a high pay and then do nothing else then certainly it will amount to a waste of the State's money.

Sir, with regard to the present Commissioner, I have not a word against him. He is quite capable of discharging the duties that are now entrusted to him. But still, considering the needs of the country, if you have the good of the people at heart, it is necessary that the Co-operative Department is separated from the Land Revenue Department so that the Co-operative Department along with the Agricultural Department are worked in such a way as to produce the effect that has been envisaged by the Dewan-President in his speech.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN : സർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ എതിർക്കേണ്ടിവന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ നിവ്യാജം വ്യസനിക്കുന്നു. പരസ്പര സഹായ പ്രസ്ഥാനങ്ങളുടെ സ്ഥിതി വളരെ പരിതാപകരം തന്നെയാണ്. അതിനെ ഉദ്ധരിച്ചു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു പ്രയോജനകരമായ വിധത്തിൽ വളർത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു പോകണമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശമായിരിക്കണം ഉപക്ഷേപകർത്താവിനുള്ളതിൽ യാതൊരു സംശയവുമില്ല. എന്നാൽ ഈ ഉദ്ദേശം സഫലപ്പെടുത്തുന്നതിനു ഈ വകുപ്പ് റവന്യൂ വകുപ്പിനോടു സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു് ഒരധ്യക്ഷന്റെ നേതൃത്വത്തിൽ വയ്ക്കുന്നതാണു് ഉത്തമമായ മാർഗ്ഗം. ഓരോ കോവാപ്പറേറിവു് സംഘങ്ങളും പണം കൊടുക്കൽ വാങ്ങൽ ചെന്നവയാണു്. ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ സ്ഥിതിക്കുജനങ്ങൾക്കു തൊഴിൽപരമായ പുരോഗതി ഉണ്ടാക്കുവാൻ ഈ സംഘങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നും പണം വാങ്ങിച്ചു് പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതിന്റെ ഫലമായി ചില സംഘങ്ങളിൽ ചില അസ്വസ്ഥതയും ഭിന്നിപ്പും ഇന്നുണ്ടു്. ഈ പരിതസ്ഥിതിയിൽ ജനങ്ങളെ യോജിപ്പിച്ചു് അസ്വസ്ഥതയെ പരിഹരിച്ചു് നല്ല വഴിയിൽ തൊഴിൽപരമായ മാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളിൽക്കൂടി പരസ്പരസഹായ സംഘങ്ങളെ പ്രവർത്തിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു പറ്റിയ അദ്ധ്യക്ഷനോടും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനോടും ചേർന്നാണു് ഇന്നു ഈ വകുപ്പിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങിനെചെയ്യുന്നതു വളരെ ബുദ്ധിപൂർവ്വമായ ഒരേർപ്പാടാണു്. നേരേമറിച്ചു് ഇതിലേക്കു് പ്രത്യേകം ഒരധ്യക്ഷനെച്ചു ധനവ്യയം ചെയ്യുന്നതു് ബുദ്ധിപൂർവ്വമായ ഒരു നയമല്ല. പരസ്പരസഹായ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനത്തിനു മേലധ്യക്ഷന്റെ കീഴിൽ ഉപാദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരുണ്ടു്. അതുപോലെ തന്നെ റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ട

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[Mr. Thariathu Kunjithommen]

ഓമൻറിലും ആഫീസ് ജോലി നിവ്വഹിക്കുന്നതിനു മാനേജരുണ്ട്. ഇതിനുംപുറമെ പേഷ്കാർമാർ, തഹശീൽദാർമാർ, ഇവർ അവരവരുടെ അതിർത്തിക്കകത്തുള്ള റവന്യു കാര്യങ്ങളും നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകയും ചെയ്യും. മുൻപു റവന്യു കമ്മീഷണർ എന്നൊരു ഉദ്യോഗം തന്നെയില്ലായിരുന്നു. അന്നു ദേവസ്വം കാര്യങ്ങൾ അന്വേഷിക്കേണ്ട ഭാരവും റവന്യു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. ഇന്നാകട്ടെ ദേവസ്വം ജോലി റവന്യു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനില്ലെന്നു മാത്രമല്ല, അസിസ്റ്റൻറ് പേഷ്കാർ എന്നു് ഒരുദ്യോഗം റവന്യു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഉണ്ടാവുകയും ചെയ്തു. ഇതിനുംപുറമെ മുൻപു് പേഷ്ക്കാരന്മാരായിരുന്ന റവന്യുമേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാർ. ഇന്നു ഒരു റവന്യു കമ്മീഷണർ കൂടിയുണ്ടു്. ഇങ്ങനെ റവന്യു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ ജോലി പണ്ടത്തെക്കാൾ വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്; ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾ കൂടിയിട്ടുമുണ്ടു്. ഇതിനും പുറമെ ഇന്നു പണ്ടത്തെക്കാൾ സഞ്ചാരസൗകര്യം വർദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഈ കാരണങ്ങളെല്ലാംകൊണ്ടു റവന്യു കമ്മീഷണർക്കു കോവാപ്പറേറിവു് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ നയിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകാൻ സൗകര്യമുണ്ടെന്നുകാണാം. ഇന്നത്തെ റവന്യു കമ്മീഷണർക്കു അതിനുള്ള വാസനയും വൈഭവവുമുണ്ടു്. ഈ കഷ്കരാജ്യത്തിൻറെ പരിതസ്ഥിതിക്കു കോവാപ്പറേറിവു് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ നയിക്കാൻ റവന്യു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷനാണു പറ്റിയ ആൾ.....അദ്ദേഹത്തിൻറെ മേൽനോട്ടത്തിൽ ഇതു നന്നായില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഈ വകുപ്പിനെ അവസാനിപ്പിക്കുകയാണു് നല്ലതു്. അല്ലാതെ പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു അദ്ധ്യക്ഷനെ വച്ചു പണ്ടത്തെപ്പോലെ അസ്വസ്ഥത വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കേണ്ട എന്നാണു എൻറെ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : ദേവസ്വം വിഭജനത്തിനുശേഷം അസിസ്റ്റൻറ് പേഷ്കാരന്മാരുടെ നിയമനംകൊണ്ടു് റവന്യു കമ്മീഷണർ ഉദ്യോഗം ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നാണൊ മെംബറുടെ അഭിപ്രായം.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN : അങ്ങനെയല്ലാ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതു്. ഇന്നു റവന്യു ഡിപ്പാർമെൻറിൽ ജോലി വളരെ കുറവുണ്ടു്. പണ്ടു് പേഷ്ക്കാരന്മാർ റവന്യു വകുപ്പിലെ കേന്ദ്രമായി സ്ഥിതിചെയ്തിരുന്നു. അന്നു ഐക്യമായ നയം തുടരാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ലായിരുന്നു. ഇന്നു റവന്യു കമ്മീഷണർ ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടു് റവന്യു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന് ഒരു ക്ലിപ്തമായ നയം സ്വീകരിക്കാൻ കഴിയും. ഇപ്പോൾ കമ്മീഷണർക്കു ജോലിക്കുറവുണ്ടു്. അതിനാൽ കോവാപ്പറേറിവു് വകുപ്പുകൂടിഭരിക്കാം എന്നേ ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞുള്ളൂ.

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MR. MAKKAR PILLAI : സർ, പരസ്പരം നന്നാകണമെന്നുള്ള നല്ലതാണ് പരിശ്രമശീലമുള്ള ആർക്കും നന്നാകാൻ സാധിക്കും. അതിലേക്കുള്ള പരിതസ്ഥിതി ഇവിടെയുണ്ട്. ഈ പരിതസ്ഥിതിയനുസരിച്ച് നന്നാകാൻ തയ്യാറില്ലാത്തവർ എത്ര ശ്രമിച്ചാലും നന്നാവുകയില്ല. എനിക്കു പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘങ്ങളെക്കുറിച്ചു കുറച്ച് അനുഭവം ഉള്ളതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഞാൻ ഇതു പറയുന്നത്. ഒരു സംഘത്തിലെ പ്രധാന പ്രവർത്തകന്മാർ പ്രസിഡൻറും സെക്രട്ടറിയുമാണ്. ഒരു സംഘം നന്നാകണമെങ്കിൽ പ്രസിഡൻറിനും സെക്രട്ടറിക്കും ഈ സംഘം കൊണ്ട് യാതൊരു കാര്യവും നേടാനില്ലാതിരിക്കണം. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഒരു പ്രസിഡൻറും സെക്രട്ടറിയും ഉണ്ടാകണം. സെക്രട്ടറിക്കും പ്രസിഡൻറിനും പണത്തിനു ആവശ്യമാണെങ്കിൽ അവർ വിചാരിച്ചാൽ ആ സംഘത്തെ നന്നാക്കാൻ സാധിക്കയില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ടാണ് ഇന്നു മിക്ക സംഘങ്ങളും ലിക്വിഡേഷൻ പതനത്തിലെത്തിയിട്ടുള്ളതു്.

ഇനി പ്രസിഡൻറും സെക്രട്ടറിയും സംഘങ്ങളെ നന്നാക്കണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ തന്നെ ചില വിഷമങ്ങളുണ്ട്. നല്ല നിലയിൽ നടത്തുന്ന സംഘമാണെങ്കിലും അവരു പ്രയത്നഫലത്തിൽ നല്ലൊരുഭാഗം സെൻട്രൽ ബാങ്കിലൊ താലൂക്ക് ബാങ്കിലോ അടക്കണം. അതു് മടക്കി കിട്ടുകയില്ല. അതുകൊണ്ട് നന്നാകണമെന്നുദ്ദേശമുള്ള സംഘങ്ങൾക്കുപോലും ഇപ്പോൾ നിരാശയാണ്.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, I wish to make a few observations. I do not complain against the capacity, good intentions or otherwise of the Land Revenue Commissioner, who has inspected about 500 societies within a period of nine months. It is the record inspection made by any officer in any department. Sir; I believe that the institution was started with the good intention of teaching the people, the idea of Co-operation and also the system of Self Government. Hence we see the society is a non official body. Our Government also have spent much for it. Devadas Committee was instituted and a Regulation was also enacted on the strength of that report. A full time officer was put in charge of the office, yet the hon. members complain, the institution has not prospered. If in spite of all these remedial measures, the result is bad, I do not understand how, a better result can be attained by handing over the charge of the Department to an officer like the Land Revenue Commissioner who is overworked. Therefore Sir, if the intention of the Government is to better the Department, it must be separated from the Land Revenue Commissioner.

Sir, I do not agree with my learned friend Mr. Sivathanu Pillai who suggested that we can gain much by the blending of the two offices and that the expenses will de minimised. If it is so, Sir, the Land Revenue Commissioner can be asked to take charge of the

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[Mr. N. Narayana Kurup.]

Agricultural Department as well. Thus we can stop both the Co-operative and Agricultural Department, and dispense with the Services of all Subordinates. This will still lessen the cost of administration. The Parvathicars, Thasildars and Peishkars can be entrusted with the works in appropriate places. I wonder how my friend Mr. Sivathanu Pillai who has been advocating for the result of an enterprise, disregarding the cost of it, has erred in this particular matter.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, I am sorry my friend has totally misunderstood me in this position.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: I have understood him correctly, Sir.

PRESIDENT : Apparently there is a difference of opinion.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: As the Co-operative movement was started to teach the system of Self Government and to teach the benefit of Co-peration, the non-official nature shall never be changed by strict rules and Regulation.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI Sir, am I then to understand the Hon. Member that the people of Travancore have not understood the spirit of Co-operative movement.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, I don't question his capacity of understanding. If the separation is taking place or not, the recommendation of the Devadar Committee to appoint an advisory Board may be enforced. The recent rigid rules, empowering the Registrar, to cancel the resolutions of the general body, to remove the Committee elected by the general body and to appoint his own nominee for managing the affairs of the society, completely change the non-official character of the societies.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : Sir, a point of order.

PRESIDENT : Order order. Two honourable members are standing. It is a matter of well-recognised procedure that the moment a point of order is raised everybody excepting the honourable member who raises the point of order resumes his seat. Mr. Sivathanu Pillai will proceed.

MR. SIVATHANU PILLAI : Sir, may I know whether in the Course of his speech a member can take suggestions from other members who are seated near him and then-proceed to lengthen his speech.

PRESIDENT : A point of order has very well defined limitations. It arises if any remark made on the floor of the House is irrelevant or inappropriate or is to be ruled out of discussion. The expediency of an honourable gentleman lengthening his speech taking advantage of another member's suggestion needs hardly to be resolved because the answer is obvious. I trust that point of orders will be raised only when there are point of orders to be raised.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP : Sir, I therefore suggest that a separation of the offices should be made and the rigid rules mentioned above shall be cancelled giving the Department its original status and character.

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PRESIDENT: Suggestions for the improvement of the Co-operative societies and Legislation are not in order in regard to this motion.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, if the intention of the Government is to improve the Co-operative Department, the above mentioned rigid rules may be cancelled, giving the societies the character of a non-official body. With these remarks I support the motion.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, in supporting the motion, I have to place a few facts for the consideration of the House. The Land Revenue Department is one of our biggest departments wherein the attention of the Land Revenue Commissioner will have to be concentrated to an increasing extent. He is more or less the personification of all the pattadars of the State and at the same time has sovereign rights in respect of the department. It is also seen from the Dewan-President's speech that the Income Tax Department too has to be supervised by him. He is the appellate authority for deciding assessment in respect of income-tax.

The present Land Revenue Commissioner, even if he is appointed as Chief Engineer, since he is one of our honest officers, will supervise the department very well. But I am sure the present Land Revenue Commissioner cannot tackle both the Land Revenue Department and the Co-operative department successfully. There are thousands of revenue sales being notified every week. The unfortunate pattadars in the different taluks are deprived of their lands. The Tahsildars of the different localities recommend for the sale of the pattadars' lands on account of default in payment of tax. In all revenue matters the Land Revenue Commissioner is almost the final authority. In such a big department as the present one, persons who have conscience should be appointed as the Head of the Department, because he has to approve of the actions of the Tahsildars in respect of sale of lands. There are very big questions to be settled such as the fixing of the boundary limits and other allied matters. Let me ask Government whether any responsible officer has inspected the State boundaries between Tinnevelly and Travancore or between the adjoining Provinces.

PRESIDENT: That is going on for all the time.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I myself am the President of a Co-operative Society. It was doing very good work. It has not done any harm to any one. On the recommendation of the Tahsildar, the Land Revenue Commissioner has cancelled the continuance of the Society. I personally represented the matter to the Commissioner and he replied that that order was as a result of a report from one of his subordinates. Since he was an honest officer he agreed with the opinion of his subordinate. It was a matter affecting the Co-operative Hospital in that locality. Without knowing the details and without making local inspection the Commissioner cancelled the society. This is the State of affairs in respect of the Co-operative Department under the guidance of the present Commissioner. If such a big officer as the present Land Revenue Commissioner cannot do well, I would suggest that the supervision of the department may be taken away from him.

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[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

The Dewan President suggested in his address that some of the minor departments such as the Agricultural, the Industrial, the Forest and Co-operative Departments may be put under a Development Commissioner. I am in entire agreement with that suggestion. The allowance that is being given to the Commissioner for looking into the duties of the Co-operative Department may not be paid any longer if a separate officer is appointed for the Co-operative Department. With these remarks I strongly support the motion.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : സർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഒന്നംതന്നെ സംസാരിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിച്ചിരുന്നില്ല. എന്റെ ചില സ്നേഹിതന്മാരുടെ അഭിപ്രായപ്രകടനങ്ങൾ എന്നെ ഈ പ്രസംഗത്തിനു നിബന്ധിതനാക്കിയതാണ്. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ പരിതാപകരമായ പരാജയം, ഇതിന്റെ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്റെ അപ്രാപ്തിയും അലസതയും കൊണ്ടുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ലെന്നും മറ്റെല്ലാ രാജ്യങ്ങളിലുമെന്നപോലെ ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം ഇവിടേയും പരാജയപ്പെട്ടു പോയിയെന്നു മാത്രമേയുള്ളുവെന്നും മി. പി. എസ്. മഹമ്മദ് ഇപ്പോൾ ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ മറ്റു പല രാജ്യങ്ങളിലും ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം—പരസ്പര സഹായസംഘപ്രവർത്തനം—വളരെ വിജയകരമായി നടന്നു വരുന്നുണ്ടെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അറിവ്. ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം ഇവിടെ ഇത്രമേൽ പരാജയമടഞ്ഞതു് ഈ വകുപ്പിന്റെ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്റെ അപ്രാപ്തിയും അയോഗ്യതയും, മൂലമാണെന്നാകുന്നു എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഈ വകുപ്പിന്റെ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷനായിരിക്കുന്നതിന് പ്രത്യേക പരിശീലനമൊന്നും ആവശ്യമില്ലെന്നും ഇന്നത്തെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേധാവി പല സംഘങ്ങളും പരിശോധിക്കുന്നതു് അദ്ദേഹം കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നും പരിശോധന വളരെ കെങ്കേമമായിരുന്നുവെന്നും എന്റെ ബഹുമാന്യ സ്നേഹിതനായ മി. ശിവതാണുപിള്ള അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടു. ഇങ്ങിനെ മി. ശിവതാണുപിള്ള ഒരഭിപ്രായം പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചതു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘപ്രവർത്തനത്തെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള പരിപൂർണ്ണമായ അജ്ഞതകൊണ്ടല്ലെ എന്നു ഞാൻ സംശയിക്കുന്നു. പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘവകുപ്പു മേധാവിക്കു പ്രത്യേക പരിശീലനമൊന്നും ആവശ്യമില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇന്നു ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയായിരിക്കുന്ന ആളിനെ മുൻപു് ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിൽ പരിശീലനത്തിനായി ഗവണ്മെൻറു് അയച്ചതു് അബദ്ധമായിപ്പോയല്ലെ എന്നാണ് ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു ചോദിക്കുന്നതു്.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: What I said was, it does not require any technical knowledge.

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MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : സർ, ഇത് ഒരു സാങ്കേതികവകുപ്പാണ്. ഇതിന്റെ മേധാവിക്ക് ഈ വകുപ്പിനെപ്പറ്റിയുള്ള സാങ്കേതികപരിജ്ഞാനമുണ്ടായിരിക്കണമെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘപ്രവർത്തനത്തെപ്പറ്റി യാതൊരുവക ജ്ഞാനവുമില്ലാത്തയാൾ ആ വകുപ്പിന്റെ മേധാവിയായിരുന്നാൽ ആ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനങ്ങളും പരാജയത്തിൽ കലാശിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളത് സുവിദിതമാണ്. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു ഭരണം പരാജയത്തിൽ കലാശിച്ചതുകൊണ്ടു മാത്രം ഇതിന്റെ മേധാവി അപ്രാപ്തനും അയോഗ്യനുമാണെന്നു തെളിയുന്നു.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJI THOMMEN : അങ്ങിനെയാണെങ്കിൽ കുറെ നാളത്തേക്കുകൂടി അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു ഒരവസരം കൊടുക്കണ്ടേ?

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : എന്തിന്? സംഗതികൾ കുറെക്കൂടി വഷളാക്കുന്നതിനോ? സർ, ഇദ്ദേഹത്തെ പലവിധത്തിലും പലസ്ഥാനങ്ങളിലും ഞാൻ കണ്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്. അദ്ദേഹത്തെ ഒരു അസിസ്റ്റന്റു അക്കൗണ്ടാഫീസരായി ഞാൻ ആദ്യം കണ്ടു. പിന്നീടു ഇദ്ദേഹം ഡിവിഷൻ അസിസ്റ്റന്റ് അഥവാ അസിസ്റ്റന്റു പേഷ്കാരായി, പിന്നീടു് ദേവികുളം കമ്മീഷണറും അതിനുശേഷം പോർട്ടാഫീസറും ആയി. അതിനു ശേഷം ഇദ്ദേഹത്തെ അക്കൗണ്ടാഫീസരായിട്ടാണ് കാണുന്നതു്. പിന്നീടു അദ്ദേഹം ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയായി. അതിനുശേഷം പോലീസു കമ്മീഷണരായി. പിന്നീടു ഭൂനികുതിയും ആദായനികുതിയും വകുപ്പു് മേധാവിയായി. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇതാ അദ്ദേഹം പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘം രജിസ്ട്രാർ കൂടിയായി രൂപാന്തരപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു. ഒന്നുകിൽ ഇദ്ദേഹം വളരെ പ്രാപ്തനും സമർത്ഥനും സർവകാര്യങ്ങളിലും പരിജ്ഞാനമുള്ളയാളും സർവകലാവല്ലഭനും സർവജ്ഞനുമായതുകൊണ്ടു് തിരുവിതാംകൂർ പബ്ലിക്കു സർവീസിലെ എല്ലാ വകുപ്പുകൾക്കും ഇദ്ദേഹത്തെക്കൊണ്ടുള്ള പ്രയോജനം ലഭിക്കുന്നതിനായി ഇദ്ദേഹത്തെ ഇങ്ങിനെ മാറി മാറി പ്രതിഷ്ഠിക്കുന്നതായിരിക്കാം. അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഓരോ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലും ഇദ്ദേഹത്തെ നിയമിച്ചശേഷം അവിടെ ഇദ്ദേഹം ശോഭിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നു കാണുമ്പോൾ മറ്റൊരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിലേക്കു തള്ളി എവിടെയെങ്കിലും ഇദ്ദേഹം വിജയിക്കുമോയെന്നു് ഗവണ്മെന്റു പരീക്ഷിക്കുകയുമാവാം. ഈ രണ്ടു വിധത്തിൽ എങ്ങിനെയായാലും ഈ രണ്ടു ജോലിക്കുകൂടി ഒന്നിച്ചു അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു കൊടുക്കുവാൻ പാടില്ലെന്നാണ് എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം.

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[Mr Padiyara Joseph Kunju.]

അദ്ദേഹം വളരെ പ്രാപ്തനാണെങ്കിൽ സുസ്ഥിരമായ ആദായം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു നൽകിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കേണ്ടതും ഇപ്പോൾ അലങ്കോലപ്പെട്ടു കിടക്കുന്നതുമായ ഭൂനികുതിയും ആദായനികുതിയും വകുപ്പ് ശരിപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന കാര്യത്തിൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സവ്രദ്ധയും പതിക്കത്തക്ക വിധത്തിൽ മറ്റു ജോലികളിൽനിന്നും അദ്ദേഹത്തെ വിമുക്തനാക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. അതല്ലാ അദ്ദേഹം കേവലം അപ്രാപ്തനാണെന്നാണ് ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായമെങ്കിൽ രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ മേലധ്യക്ഷസ്ഥാനം ഒന്നിച്ചു വഹിക്കുന്നതിനു അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അനുവദിച്ചു കൂടാത്തതാകുന്നു.

MR. P S. MUHAMMED : ബ്രിട്ടീഷ് ഇൻഡ്യയിലുള്ള പലരും സഹകരണപ്രസ്ഥാനം അവിടെ പരാജയത്തിലിരിക്കുന്നുവെന്ന് അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതായി മെംബറിനറിയാമോ ?

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെപ്പോലെ ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള അപ്രാപ്തന്മാരായ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് മേധാവികളുള്ള ചില രാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ പാസ്പരസഹായസംഘം പരാജയപ്പെട്ടതായി കേട്ടിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. THAMARAPALLIL KOCHUTHOMMEN : കോവാപ്പറേറീവു രജിസ്ട്രാരായി ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ആഫീസർ വേണമെന്നുള്ള ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തോടു ഞാനും യോജിക്കുന്നു. സാധുജനസംരക്ഷണത്തിനായുള്ള ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറാണ് കൊവാപ്പറേറീവു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ്. അനേകം സാധുക്കൾക്കു ഉപയോഗമുള്ള ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം ഉൾനാടുകളിൽ ധാരാളമായി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തേണ്ടതാണു. അതിലേക്ക് പ്രത്യേകം ഒരാളിനെ നിയമിച്ചാൽ കൂടുതൽ കാര്യമായി നടക്കും. ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ കമ്മീഷണർ എത്ര പ്രാപ്തിയുള്ള ആളായിരുന്നാലും അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു എടുക്കാവുന്നതിൽ കൂടുതൽ നിയമനം നൽകിയാൽ അതു നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു പോകുന്നതിനു അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു സാദ്ധ്യമാകയില്ല. സൊസൈറ്റികളിലുള്ള പ്രസിഡൻറന്മാരും സെക്രട്ടറിമാരും ചെയ്യുന്ന അഴിമതികളെ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുവാൻ പ്രത്യേകം ചില ആളുകൾതന്നെ ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഇവിടെ വല്ലതും പരാജയപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതിലെ മേലധ്യക്ഷന്മാരുടെ അശ്രദ്ധകൊണ്ടുതന്നെയായിരിക്കും. കോവാപ്പറേറീവു പ്രസ്ഥാനം ഇതുമേൽ പരാജയപ്പെട്ടതു സൊസൈറ്റി പ്രസിഡൻറന്മാരും സെക്രട്ടറിമാരും മറ്റും കാണിക്കുന്ന അഴിമതികൾ കണ്ടുപിടിക്കുകയോ, അവയെ വേണ്ടതരത്തിൽ പരിശോധിക്കയോ ചെ

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യ്യാത്ത കുറവുകൊണ്ടു മാത്രമാണ്. അതിനാൽ ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെ കൂടുതൽ ഉപയോഗപ്രദമാക്കത്തക്ക നിലയിൽ ഇന്നത്തെ ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ കമ്മീഷണരെ ഈ ചുമതലയിൽനിന്നും വിടുതൽചെയ്യേണ്ടതു വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമായ ഒരു കാര്യമാകുന്നു.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം എതിർക്കുന്നു. സഹകരണസംഘപ്രസ്ഥാനം തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒരു പരീക്ഷണഘട്ടത്തിലല്ല, ഒരു പരാജയഘട്ടത്തിൽതന്നെ എത്തിയിരിക്കുന്നു എന്നു പറയാം. ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം ഇനിയും ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്റെ കീഴിൽ പ്രത്യേകമായി വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കണമെന്നു പറയുന്നതു മരണക്കിടക്കയിൽ കിടന്നു അന്ത്യശ്വാസം വലിക്കുന്നവനു വിവാഹനിശ്ചയം ചെയ്യുന്നതുപോലെയാണ്. ദേവധാർകമ്മിറ്റിറിപ്പോർട്ടിൻപ്രകാരം ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം നമ്മെ ഏകദേശം ക്ഷ. കോടിരൂപായുടെ കടക്കാരാക്കിത്തീർത്തു എവിടെനിന്നെങ്കിലും പു ജാമ്യക്കാരെ കൊണ്ടുവന്നു കിട്ടുന്നിടത്തോളം പണം കടം വാങ്ങിക്കുവാൻ മാത്രം ഉപകരിക്കുന്ന ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു എത്രയും വേഗം നിറുത്തുവാൻ കഴിയുമോ അത്രയും വേഗം നിറുത്തേണ്ടതാണ്. എന്റെ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. നാരായണക്കുറുപ്പു പറഞ്ഞു, പരസ്പരസഹായഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം പ്രജായത്തഭരണസംബന്ധമായ ചില പരീക്ഷണങ്ങൾകൂടി നടത്തുകയാണെന്നു്. അതാണ് ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശമെങ്കിൽ ഏറ്റവും ലജ്ജാകരമായ വിധത്തിൽ പ്രജായത്തഭരണപരിശീലനം ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനം അധഃപതിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ഇനി ഈ വിഷയത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഒരൊറ്റക്കാര്യം മാത്രമാണ് എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. പൂർണ്ണമായി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു നിറുത്തുന്നതുവരെ ഇതിനു് ഒരു ഭരണം വേണം. ലാൻറുറവന്യൂകമ്മീഷ്ണർ അവർകൾക്ക് രണ്ടു ഭരണവുംകൂടി ചുമതലപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടുപോകുവാൻ കഴിയുമോ എന്നുള്ള കാര്യം ചിന്തിക്കേണ്ടതുണ്ട്. കഴിഞ്ഞ ഒൻപതു മാസക്കാലംകൊണ്ടു ൪൦൦-ൽപരം സംഘങ്ങൾ മറെറാരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്മാരും പരിശോധിച്ചിട്ടില്ലാത്തമാതിരിയിൽ പരിശോധിച്ചു അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ അദ്ധ്വാനശീലത്തേയും പരസ്പരസഹായപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെപ്പറ്റി വേണ്ട ജ്ഞാനം ലഭിക്കുവാനുള്ള ആകാംക്ഷയേയും നാം അഭിനന്ദിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്റെ ഭരണത്തിനു അത്ര വലിയ സാങ്കേതിക പരിജ്ഞാനമൊന്നും ആവശ്യമുള്ളതായി എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. വേണമെങ്കിൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ കീഴിൽത്തന്നെ സാങ്കേതികപരിശീലനം സിദ്ധിച്ച അനവധി ആളുകൾ ഇപ്പോൾ ജോലിയിലുണ്ട്.

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MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: ഇപ്രകാരം സാങ്കേതികപരിശീലനം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ആളുകൾ ആരെല്ലാമാണ്?

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : മി. ജി. ആർ. പിള്ള മുതൽപേർ.

എന്നാൽ, ലാൻറ്റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ കുറച്ചു പ്രായമായ ആളായതുകൊണ്ട് ഈ രണ്ടു ചുമതലയും അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ തലയിൽ കെട്ടിവയ്ക്കാതെ ഇരുന്നാൽകൊള്ളാമെന്നുള്ള ചിലരുടെ അഭിപ്രായത്തെപ്പറ്റി ഞാൻ ചിന്തിച്ചു. ചുമട്ടുകാരൻ ചുമട് ചുമക്കുവാൻ ജാഗ്രതയായി, സന്തോഷമായി തയാറായിരിക്കുന്ന നിലയ്ക്ക് ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി നാം അത്ര വലിയ ഒരു ചിന്ത കാണിക്കേണ്ട ആവശ്യം ഇല്ലെന്നു എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നു. ഇവിടെ ആവശ്യമില്ലാത്ത അനവധി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളും ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുമുണ്ട്. ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി ആളുകളേയും ആളുകൾക്കുവേണ്ടി ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളെയും സൃഷ്ടിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ഏർപ്പാടും ഇവിടെ കാണുന്നുണ്ട്. ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ സഹകരണസംഘംവകുപ്പ് ജനസംരക്ഷണവകുപ്പല്ല. ജനസംഹരണവകുപ്പാണ്. കുറച്ചു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർക്കുവേണ്ടി ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ്, പുണ്യവാളന്മാരെ അടക്കം ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതെങ്കിലും താറുമാറായി കിടക്കുന്ന ശവകുടീരംപോലെ അങ്ങ് നിലകൊള്ളുകയാണ്. അതിനാൽ എത്രയും വേഗം ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് അവസാനിപ്പിക്കാമോ അത്രയും വേഗം അവസാനിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായം പ്രകടിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം എതിർക്കുന്നു.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : ആ കാര്യത്തിൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ ലാൻറ്റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ മിടുക്കനാണെന്നാണോ മെമ്പറിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം?

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെ എത്രയും വേഗം അവസാനിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞത്. ലാൻറ്റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണരുടെ കീഴിലുള്ള ഭരണം അതിനായിരിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞില്ല. ആ പ്രശ്നം ഗവൺമെൻറ് വേണ്ടതുപോലെ ആലോചിക്കേണ്ടതാണ്.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : മെമ്പറിന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം ഈ മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷന്റെ കീഴിൽ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിരുന്നാലാണ് ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെ തുരത്തുവാൻ കഴിയുന്നത് എന്നാണോ?

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞത് ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെ എങ്ങനെയെങ്കിലും അവസാനിപ്പിക്കേണ്ടതു അത്യാവശ്യമാകയാൽ വേറെ ഒരുമേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷനെ നിയമിച്ചു ചെലവുകൾ വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു അനാവശ്യവും അനാശാസ്യവും എന്നാകുന്നു.

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MR. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: ഞാനും ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. പരസ്പരസഹായഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ ഇന്നു നടക്കുന്ന അഴിമതികളും കൊള്ളകളും നീക്കുന്നതിലേക്കു മുഴുവൻ സമയവും ജോലിചെയ്യുന്ന ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ നിയമിക്കേണ്ടതു വളരെ അത്യാവശ്യമാണ്. ലാൻറ് റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ ഇതിനു പോരാത്ത ആളാണെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. അദ്ദേഹം ൧൯൦-ൽ ചിലപ്പോൾ സംഘങ്ങൾ ഇതിനകം പരിരോധിച്ചു എന്നു പറയുമ്പോൾ അദ്ദേഹം ചെയ്ത ശ്രമം എത്രമാത്രമാണെന്നു ഏവർക്കും ഊഹിക്കാം. അദ്ദേഹം വളരെ പ്രാപ്തിയും കായ്ശേഷിയുമുള്ള ഒരാളായിരിക്കാം. എങ്കിലും ഈ രണ്ടുഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനേയും ഒരേ രീതിയിൽ സംരക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതിനു അദ്ദേഹത്തിനു സാധിക്കുമെന്നു എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. ഒന്നുകിൽ റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണരായിട്ടോ, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ പരസ്പരസഹായസംഘം രജിസ്ട്രാരായിട്ടോ, ഏതിലെങ്കിലും ഒന്നിൽ, അല്ലാതെ ശോഭിക്കുമെന്നും തോന്നുന്നില്ല. റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽതന്നെ അനേകം ജോലികൾ ചെയ്തീർക്കുവാൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനുണ്ട്. കുടിശികജോലികൾ ഏറ്റവും വിപുലമായ തോതിൽ ഇപ്പോഴും അവിടെ അവശേഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN : ൧൯൨൯-ലേയും ൧൯൩൬-ലേയും, അതായതു ഈ രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനേയും രണ്ടു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ഭരിച്ചിരുന്ന കാലത്തു് ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന കുടിശികകളെക്കാൾ ക്രൂടുതലായി ഇപ്പോൾ കുടിശിക ഇല്ലെന്നുള്ള വിവരം മെമ്പറിനറിയാമൊ?

MR. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: എനിക്കു നിശ്ചയമില്ല. ഞാൻ അതിനെക്കുറിച്ചു ശരിയായി പഠിച്ചിട്ടില്ല.

റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണരെ ഞാൻ ഒരിക്കലും കുറ്റംപറയുന്നില്ല. അദ്ദേഹം റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ എല്ലാ സമുദായങ്ങൾക്കും ഉദ്യോഗം കൊടുക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ തുല്യശ്രദ്ധയോടെ ഇരിക്കുന്ന ഒരാളാണെന്നു് എനിക്കറിയാം. അതുപോലെ പരസ്പരസഹായഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലും അദ്ദേഹം പ്രവർത്തിക്കുമെന്നും ഞാൻ ആശിക്കുന്നു. ഒരുപക്ഷെ ഈ രണ്ടു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളും അദ്ദേഹം ഭംഗിയാംവണ്ണം ഭരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുപോകുമെന്നുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അതു് എല്ലാവർക്കും നല്ലതാണു്. എന്നാൽ, പ്രായോഗികമായി അതു നടപ്പുള്ള ഒരു കാര്യമാണു് അതു് എന്നു എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നില്ലാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു മാത്രം ഞാൻ ഇതുയും പറഞ്ഞതാണു്.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI: സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറു മേലദ്ധ്യക്ഷൻറെ ഭരണകാര്യത്തിൽ എനി

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[Mr, T. T. Kesavan Sastri,]

ക്കു എതിരഭിപ്രായമില്ല. ഈ പക്ഷേപം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുവാൻ ഇടയാ യതു് ഈ വകുപ്പിന്റെ പുരോഗതിയെ കാംക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണെന്നുള്ള അ വതാരകന്റെ അഭിപ്രായത്തോടു ഞാൻ യോജിക്കുകയാകുന്നു.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDAN PILLAI : ആ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ സം ബന്ധിച്ചു ഞാൻ ഒന്നും പ്രസ്താവിച്ചില്ല.

MR T. T KESAVAN SASTRI : സഹകരണപ്രസ്ഥാനം നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യ ക്ഷേമത്തിനു സർവഥാ ആദരണീയവും അനുകരണീയവുമാണു്. അൻപ തിനായിരം രൂപാ സദയം അനുവദിച്ചു് സകല താലൂക്കുകളിലും പകുതി കളിലും ഗ്രാമോദ്ധാരണജോലി ആരംഭിക്കുവാൻ ഗവണ്മെന്റു് തീരുമാനി ച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സംഗതി ഈ അവസരത്തിൽ അനുസ്മരണീയമാകുന്നു. ജനാക്ഷേ മത്തെ മുൻനിത്തി പൊതുവെ നമ്മുടെ പരസ്പരസഹായപ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുത്തുവാനും ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു് അതീവ താത്പര്യം ഉണ്ടെ ന്നുള്ള വസ്തുത ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടുണ്ടു്. ഗവണ്മെന്റിന്റെ പ്രോത്സാഹജനകമായ ശ്രദ്ധയും സഹായവും ഈ പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തിന്റെ ശോഭനമായ അഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കു അവശ്യമാകുന്നു. ഈ വകുപ്പിന്റെ ഭരണം ലാൻഡു് റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ ഇപ്പോൾ സചാകരിച്ചിരിക്കയാണല്ലൊ. അ ദ്ദേഹം കായ്മയി ശ്രദ്ധിക്കുന്നുമുണ്ടു്. പുരോഗമിച്ച കാലത്തെ അദ്ദേഹത്തി ന്റെ മേൽനോട്ടം പ്രയോജനപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുമുണ്ടു്. എങ്കിലും ഒരു പ്രത്യേക ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്റെ മേൽനോട്ടത്തിൽ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു് ഭരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു പോകാൻ സംഗതിയാകുമെങ്കിൽ നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതാണു്. കഴി ഞ്ഞ ൻ മാസക്കാലത്തിനിടയിൽ കമ്മീഷണർ ഈവകുപ്പിന്റെ നടത്തി പ്പിൽ പ്രത്യേകം ശ്രദ്ധിച്ചു അതിലേക്കു കൂടുതൽ സമയം വിനിയോഗി ച്ചിട്ടുണ്ടെന്നു കാണുന്നതു സന്തോഷാവഹംതന്നെയാണു്. സഹകരണസം ബന്ധമായ കൂടുതൽ പരിജ്ഞാനം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഒരാളിന്റെ ഭരണ ത്തിനു് ഈഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റിനെ വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കുന്നതു് ഏതുപ്രകാരത്തിലും ഏറെ നന്നായിരിക്കുമെന്നാണെന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെന്റു് മേധാവി എത്ര സമർത്ഥനായിരുന്നാലും ഒരേസമയം രണ്ടു ഭരണം നട ത്താനിടയായാൽ അതു അത്ര ശോഭിക്കുമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ കമ്മീഷണർ ഈ വകുപ്പുംകൂടി ഭരിക്കുന്നതിനെക്കാൾ നല്ലതു ഒരാളിന്റെ ചുമതലയിൽ ആക്കുന്നതു് നിശ്ചയമായും കൂടുതൽ ഉപയോഗപ്രദമായിരി ക്കുന്നതാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലി ക്കുന്നു.

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MR. D. FRANCIS: സർ, ഞാൻ ഇത് cut motion നെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. ഇന്ത പരസ്പരസഹകരണം (Co-operative Department), ഇതുപോലെ പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ ഉപകാരപ്പെടുത്തുന്ന ഡിപാർട്ടുമെന്റ് വേറെയില്ലെന്നു തന്നെ പറയാം. ഏഴ പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഇന്ത ഡിപാർട്ടുമെന്റിനുൽ അനേകം അനുകൂലങ്ങൾ കിടക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. പണം സേകരിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള വഴികൾ ഇതിൽ ഉണ്ട്. ഇവ്വണ്ണം ഉപകാരപ്രദമായ ഡിപാർട്ടുമെന്റ് നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടുപോകുന്നതിനു ഒരു പെരിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ തന്നെ ഇരിക്കണം. ഇതിന്റെ ഉപയോഗത്തെ അറിഞ്ഞു, ഇങ്ങനെ തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തിരുന്നവർ ഒരുവനെ അങ്ങനെ—മദ്രാസിൽ—ഇന്ത ഡിപാർട്ടുമെന്റിനു രജിസ്ട്രാരായി നിയമിക്കപ്പെട്ടാർ. അങ്ങനെ രജിസ്ട്രാരായി ഇരുന്നവർ ഒരുവനെ ഇന്ത സ്ഥാനത്തിനു തിരുവനന്തപുരത്തു നിയമിക്കപ്പെട്ടാർ. പിന്നീടു സഹകരണം അടുത്തുപോന ജനങ്ങളെ മറ്റു സമുദായങ്ങളെപ്പോലെ മുന്നണിയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരുവതിനു ഇന്ത ഡിപാർട്ടുമെന്റ് ഏറ്റതായിരുന്നിരുന്നു. അതിനു കുറഞ്ഞ സമ്പളം വാങ്ങുന്നവരെയോ, താഴ്ന്നതരം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെയോ ഇന്ത ഡിപാർട്ടുമെന്റിന്റെ മേലധികാരിയായി നിയമിക്കപ്പെടുന്നതില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഇന്ത കോപ്പറേറ്റീവ് ഡിപാർട്ടുമെന്റിനു മേലധികാരിയായിരുപ്പവർ—Land Revenue Commissioner—ലാണ്ടു റെവിന്യൂ കമ്മിഷണർ വെമ്പ നല്ലവർ, കയവുള്ളവർ. അവരെ എനിക്കു നൊമ്പനന്നായിട്ടു തെരിയും. അവർ അനേകം വേലകളിലിരുന്നു പെയർവാങ്ങിവർ. ഇവരെയേ പ്രത്യേകമായോ, അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇരുക്കിറതുപോലെ കൂടി നടത്തുവാനോ ഏർപാടു ചെയ്യവേണ്ടും. പെരിയ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ പാത്രം താഴ്ന്തവർകളെ മുന്നേറ്റത്തിനുള്ള വേലകളെ ചെയ്യ തകുതിയുടെവർകളായിരുപ്പാർകൾ. അതിനാൽ തൽപോതുള്ള ലാണ്ടു റെവിന്യൂ കമ്മിഷണരെയേ വെച്ചു ഇന്ത ഡിപാർട്ടുമെണ്ടു നടത്തുന്ന ഏർപാടു ചെയ്യണമെന്നു കേട്ടുക്കൊണ്ടു ഇന്തപ്പ പ്രമേയത്തെ എതിർക്കിറേൻ.

MR. N. VELU ACHARI: സർ, ലാൻഡ് റവന്യൂ കമ്മീഷണർക്കു കോവാപ്പറേറ്റീവ് രജിസ്ട്രാരുടെ ഉദ്യോഗംകൂടി ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കാൻ പാടില്ലാഎന്നും അങ്ങിനെ അതു മാറുന്നപക്ഷം കരംപിരിവു സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള ജോലികൾക്കു കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യമുണ്ടായിരിക്കുമെന്നും വിവരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പൂരസ്കരിച്ചു് ഇവിടെ പലരും പ്രസംഗിക്കുകയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അഭിപ്രായം നിയമിച്ചതു് കോവാപ്പറേറ്റീവ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ ജനങ്ങൾക്കുപകാരപ്രദമായി അഭിവൃദ്ധിപ്പെടുത്താനും മറും കൂടുതൽ സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നു് വിചാരിച്ചുകൊണ്ടായിരിക്കണമെന്നു് ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെ സൌകര്യം ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതു് ഉത്തമമായ ഒരു മാർഗ്ഗമാണെന്നു മാത്രമല്ല അതു പ്രായോഗികമായി ശരിയാണെന്നുമാണു എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം. നേരെ മറിച്ചു് ഇവരണ്ടും രണ്ടാക്കി രണ്ടു പേരുടെ കീഴിൽ വച്ചാൽ അതുകൊണ്ടു കൂടുതൽ പണച്ചിലവും കഷ്ടനഷ്ടങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാകുന്നതിനു് ഇടയുണ്ടു്. ഇന്നു് സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനമാണു്.

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[Mr. N. Velu Achari.]

ഈ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ മുതലിൽ നാലിലൊന്നോ മൂന്നിലൊന്നോ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ ശമ്പളത്തിനായി ചെലവാക്കുന്നു എന്നു മുറവിളിക്കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുമ്പോൾ ഇനിയും പ്രത്യേകം പ്രത്യേകം ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനു പ്രത്യേകം പ്രത്യേകം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരെ നിയമിച്ച് കൂടുതൽ ധനവ്യയം ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്നതു് ഒരിക്കലും ആശാസ്യമായിരിക്കയില്ല. ഇതിന്റെ അധികാരം ഈ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽത്തന്നെ നിക്ഷിപ്തമായിരിക്കുന്നതു് ഏറ്റവും ഉചിതമായിരിക്കുമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോടുകൂടി ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു. ഇന്നത്തെ കമ്മീഷണർ അവർകൾ സമർത്ഥനും പല ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലും ഇരുന്ന് നല്ല പരിചയം സിദ്ധിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ആളും ആയതുകൊണ്ടു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സഹായത്തോടുകൂടി അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ സിൽബന്ധികൾ ഈ സംഗതികളെല്ലാം ഭംഗിയായി നടത്തുമെന്നു് നമുക്കു വിശ്വസിക്കാമെന്നുള്ളതാണെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. അതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയത്തെ ബലമായി എതിർക്കുന്നു.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Sir, I oppose the motion because I am not convinced of the reasonableness of the same. The intention of the mover as made clear from the statement in the motion sheet is "to discuss the desirability of relieving the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner of his duties as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies so as to make his travelling more beneficial to the tax-payers in the State." From that, does it mean that if the officer is relieved of his duties as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies he would do more travelling? Is it the meaning of the statement that we want to relieve him of his travel? I do not see any point in that. He has got the powers of the Land Revenue Commissioner, the Income Tax Commissioner and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and when he comes to a place, he cannot say "I have come to the place only as the Land Revenue Commissioner" nor could he say "I have come to the place only as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies." When he goes to a particular place, he could attend to all his three functions. But if, some other officer is appointed as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies it would mean that travelling allowance batta and all those will have to be paid to that officer separately. Suppose the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner goes to a particular place on a particular day and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies also goes to the same place on that day that means so much more batta and travelling allowance.

Secondly, I do not know how far the head of a department is a travelling officer. There are ever so many subordinates under him who do the travelling. I think that the functions of the head of the department consist in laying down the policy of that department and in controlling the various activities of that department.

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I should also think that in a debate like this personal considerations do not arise. If any principle is sought to be made out by this token cut, it makes no difference who the present incumbent is. We have to consider the question apart from person of the present officer.

So, for these reasons and in view of the statement made by the Dewan-President of the present defunct nature of the Co-operative Department, I oppose the motion.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ആദ്യകാലംമുതൽതന്നെ ഇവിടത്തെ പരസ്പരസഹായഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് ആവശ്യമില്ലാതെ വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുകയായിരുന്നു. അതിനു ശേഷം ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെ ഇങ്ങിനെ വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു് ശരിയല്ലെന്നുകണ്ടിട്ടാണു് മി. ഗോവിന്ദപ്പിള്ളയെ സ്പെഷ്യലായി ടെയിനിംഗ് ചെയ്തിച്ചു വരുത്തി ഇതിൻെറ മേലധ്യക്ഷനാക്കിയതു്. എന്നിട്ടും നിഷ്ഫലമാണെന്നാണു് കണ്ടതു്. എങ്കിലും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് ഉണ്ടാക്കിയസ്ഥിതിക്കു് അതിനെ പെട്ടെന്നു കളയണ്ടാ. അവസാനത്തിൽ കളഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളാമെന്നു് നിശ്ചയിച്ചിരുന്നു. അതിലേക്കു വേണ്ടി നിയമിച്ചിരുന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ കളയേണ്ടകാലം അതിക്രമിച്ചിരുന്നു. പല സൊസൈറ്റികളിലെ പ്രസിഡണ്ടന്മാരും സിക്രട്ടറിമാരും സാധുക്കളായ കൃഷിക്കാരെ പീഡനം ചെയ്താണു് ജീവിച്ചുവരുന്നതു്. മുമ്പു് പ്രത്യേകം ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനെ വരുത്തി ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലേക്കു് ലയിപ്പിക്കുകയാണു് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതു്. എന്നാൽ ആ ഭാഗം ഗവണ്മെൻറ് പരസ്യമായി സമ്മതിക്കുകയില്ല. തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഇതിലേക്കു് പ്രത്യേക ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥൻ ആവശ്യമില്ല. രജിസ്ട്രേഷൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറ് മേലധ്യക്ഷനോ ജായിൻറ്സ്റ്റാക്കു് രജിസ്ട്രാക്കോ ലാൻറ് റവന്യൂ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനോ ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൻെറ മേലധികാരം വിട്ടുകൊടുത്താൽ തരക്കേടില്ല. ഇതിലേക്കു് പ്രത്യേകമായി ആരും വേണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതു് മി. ഗോവിന്ദപ്പിള്ളയുടെ ഭരണത്തിനു ശേഷം വെളിപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുള്ളതാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ ശക്തിയായി എതിർക്കുന്നു.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: Sir, on the reasons adduced for the separation of the Co-operative Department one would have naturally to accept the motion, but when my friend, Mr. Sivathanu Pillai questioned the mover as to the cause, the mover said, there was a dispute between the Government and one Mr. X.

PRESIDENT: No, No. The Honourable Member who moved the cut motion said that in addition to his duties, as the Land Revenue Commissioner and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, certain other duties have been handed over to the Land Revenue Commissioner and he deprecated the multiplication of functions to one individual.

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MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: I distinctly remember the mover saying there is a dispute between the Government and one Mr. X and the matter has been referred to arbitration by the Land Revenue Commissioner and the inference I got, Sir, is the present incumbent may not be able to do it.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: On a word of personal explanation. That was not my object.

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: It has been said that the present incumbent of the Co-operative Department does not possess knowledge of law. I don't think this argument is sustainable because questions of law arise in every Department and the Head of the Department may make a reference to the Crown lawyers, when occasion demands.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: When a case is argued before Land Revenue Commissioner, does the Member suggest that he must immediately refer the matter to the Advocate-General?

MR. J. E. A. PEREIRA: I was only referring to him as the Director of Co-operative Department. Therefore, that does not arise. By a seemingly innocuous cut motion, I honestly feel, Sir, that an unwarranted and unjustifiable attack has been made on the capacity on one of the noblest straightforward and very able officer. In my opinion, he will not only fit, but also be an ornament to any cabinet or ministry.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I was appointed as Land Revenue Commissioner about ten months back. It was a few days after I took charge as Land Revenue Commissioner that I was directed by Government to take charge of the Co-operative Department also. I did not feel quite sanguine about it then; but I had to obey the orders of Government. I have been working as the Registrar of Co-operative Societies for about nine months. After having worked for nine months I have come to certain conclusions which I shall place before the House. The co-operative movement is a mass movement and Government have not got to do much except by way of propaganda, guidance and supervision. Any growth and improvement has to come only from the people; Government can only help them.

Secondly, the status of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies should be not that of an officer on Rs. 300. it should be of that of a first grade officer. If you compare the status of the Registrars in other States or in the Provinces of India, you will see that only first grade officers are put in charge of the Co-operative Department. The main reason is that it is only then that that public co-operation, which is very necessary for the success of the movement, will be forthcoming.

Thirdly, the Co-operative Department does not need the help and co-operation of any other department as much as it needs the co-operation of the Land Revenue Department; in fact, there is no department which does not need the help of the Land Revenue Department. For every matter, references have to go to the Peishkar, to the Tahsildar and down to the Proverthicar. At any rate, in the case of the Co-operative Department, it can be asserted more or less that it cannot get on without the help of the Land Revenue Department.

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Fourthly, Sir, in Travancore, the Co-operative Department had come to a stage when the Government had to pause in order to see how far the department had progressed. Naturally, the Land Revenue Commissioner being the officer who has most to deal with the public at large, and who has to visit every taluk and every pakuthi in the State to meet the people and to ascertain their wants in all matters connected with their welfare, was given the charge of the Co-operative Department also. I should think these were the reasons which weighed with the Government in making the present arrangement. That is my inference.

I may perhaps repeat that, if our Co-operative movement has failed, it is mainly due to the fact that our Registrars have been officers of the Rs. 300-400 grade. There is no wonder that officers of that status were not able to attract people to them and to get from them the willing co-operation which is the foundation of the Co-operative movement.

I do not know what exactly the policy of Government was when they appointed me as the Co-operative Registrar; but having been in the department for nearly an year, I think I am right in the inferences I have drawn about the reasons which should have weighed with the Government in giving the charge of the Co-operative Department to the Land Revenue Commissioner.

Having been appointed Registrar of Co-operative Societies, I took up the task. Such of the Hon'ble members as have known me and have had occasion to watch my work, would bear me out when I say that I have gone to several pakuthies in the State and have visited many Co-operative Societies during the time I have been in charge of the department. I have already given a succinct account of how the movement stands in the State at present.

As regards the arbitration case, I repudiate the statements made by the member. The arbit. case is a sacred trust handed to me by Government and I will discharge it to the best of my ability (hear, hear). The tricky way in which the member brought the matter of arbitration case into this motion concerning the Co-operative Department and the Land Revenue Commissioner shows what he is I have nothing more to say, Sir.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM: May I ask whether Land Revenue work has suffered in any way by the Hon'ble member's work as head of the Co-operative Department?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I have already stated that neither the work of the Land Revenue Department, nor the work of the Co-operative Department has suffered.

The moment I feel I am too weak to handle both the departments, I shall be the first man to tell the Government about it.

MR. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I ask whether there is any definite scheme before Government for co-ordinating the activities of the Agricultural Department and the Co-operative Department, with a view to the regeneration of rural parts?

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MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I am not at all satisfied with the explanation given by the Land Revenue Commissioner, nor with the tone of his reply. I therefore press my motion.

PRESIDENT: Before putting the matter to vote, I have two points to clear. It is necessary to remember that Government have not vested the Co-operative Department and its administration with the Land Revenue Commissioner, by mere chance or due to lack of a definite policy in the matter. I shall now enunciate our policy in this respect.

(*a*) To get rid of unnecessary heads of departments, heads which are costing the Government needless money;

(*b*) To administer such departments with the aid of local talent as far as possible—a scrutiny of Government benches will disclose the results of that policy;

(*c*) To appoint non-Travancorean experts only where the absolute necessities of the situation demand such appointment.

Now, I for one feel that, in the past, there has been considerable laxity in this matter. For a State of this size and this income, it is unnecessary to have so many heads of departments as we are having,—(*Hear, here.*) Registrar of Joint Stock Companies Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Protector of Backward Communities, Superintendent of Stationary and Printing, and so on and so forth. The object of the Government is that only those of heads of departments survive and are maintained, who have got a day's work and a definite and important policy to pursue.

Moreover, in view of what fell from certain Honorable members. I find that there is some talk about technical efficiency, as it is called, for certain departments. Mention has been made of the necessity of scientific knowledge of co-operation. The Co-operative Department needs nothing more than knowledge of human nature, and sympathy with the common peasant; perhaps, there are a few elementary text books to be read.

One of the most successful Co-operative Registrars that have shed lustre on that office has been my distinguished predecessor here, the late Sir P. Rajagopalachariar; it was perhaps his work as Registrar of Co-operative Societies that was the finest work he did in his life. How did he succeed? He went about from village to village, and, by sitting Dharna at the door of each headman of the village made every other villager come near him. That was how he tried and started co-operative societies. And then, he used to repeat his visits to every one of these villages and to see to it that the dues are properly paid by the villagers. He would sit by the side of the leaders in the village and bring round all the villagers, preach to them the advantages of co-operation and create in them a sincere interest in the work. That was how the work of that department became, in Madras, the success it was, which I would now emphatically say, it is not today. In fact, after Sir P. Rajagopalachari left the department, it deteriorated and degenerated, and is now as bad as in Travancore.

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Now, feeling like that, all talk of scientific knowledge of co-operation and all the rest of it, does not appeal to me at all. There is absolutely no science about it. What is needed as I said, is knowledge of human nature and sympathy; and along with that sympathy, you require conjoint action on the part of officials and non-officials. What is mainly wanted is complete co-operation from the Land Revenue Department; because without the help of the Tahsildars and the Proverthicars, the work of the Co-oporative Department will not be adequately implemented.

A separative Co-operative Registrar for Travancore is a costly and needless luxury. Secondly it was considered that the Land Revenue Department was the fittest instrument for doing co-operative work at the present stage of the movement. When the department was started the position was different. High hopes were raised. It was considered that co-operation was a recondite science, and by the wave of a magic wand as it were all the indebtedness of the people would disappear. It was thought that useful marketing societies, useful credit societies would come into existence in large numbers in every village in the country. It has since been realised that so far as our people are concerned, the movement has not been the great success that we hope it would be. All our hopes of joint action on the part of the people have been shattered. In fact, in Travancore, the habit of joint work has to be patiently inculcated, village by village, with the co-operation of Village Panchayats. What is mainly needed is the foundation of Village Panchayats, and Village and Taluk Societies. These are the foundations of the Co-operative movement. I would repeat, there is absolutely no science about it.

Now, whether a particular occupant of the office does his work or not, it is for the House and for the public to Judge. But to say that we must have a separative Co-operative Registrar for dealing with absolutely defunct institutions, and for sending out monetary letters asking people to pay up their dues, is something which I cannot subscribe to. I leave it for the House to decide. Judging from my experience of the department in this State, I have been driven to the following conclusion.

(*a*) The first duty of the Co-operative Registrar would be to put out of the way, as soon as possible, all the societies that are a real menace to the country.

(*b*) Secondly, it should be his duty to encourage and actively to encourage and support those societies which have a future, which are backed by real securities, which are worked by sincere and enthusiastic men of character and integrity. What is much more important for the co-operative department than money—that is nothing for real co-operative work—, what is needed more than even credit, is character; that is the foundation of the co-operative movement.

Any head of the department who will bear these in mind, will succeed; any one who does not, will not succeed. The material is there, I am sure, in this country. What was happened is that certain divining people have taken advantage of village factions and have uti-

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[President.]
lised these societies as money lending organisations. That idea must throughly disappear. It is for that that you require propaganda, intensive propaganda by men of character; any amount of money will not serve that purpose.

How far a particular officer has been able to do that will be judged and as per such judgment verdict will be passed upon his work.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: In view of the convincing elucidation of facts by the Dewan-President, I beg leave to withdraw my motion.

The motions was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 5

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowance by Re 1"

My object is to impress upon the Government the indispensable necessity of opening a sub-treasury at Chengannur. The matter has been brought to the attention of Government many a time, by means of cut motions and interpellations. The first question that the Government should consider is whether it would be desirable to constitute a separate taluk, of Chengannur, consisting of the pakuthies of the old Chengannur taluk. But, as I could gather from the answers given to my interpellation, that the Ex-Land Revenue Commissioner was not for establishing a separate Chengannur Taluk at present. Sir, I was told the other day, in answer to an interpellation, that, in regard to the question of opening a sub-treasury there the Land Revenue Commissioner had submitted a favourable report to Government. It is a long time since I got that answer.

Sir, Chengannur has very many Government institutions; there is a Munsiff's Court, an English High School, the Division Assistant's Office, and two Magistrates' Courts. All these institutions have frequently to remit money into the treasury; and money has also to be withdrawn from the treasury for the payment of the salaries of the establishment of these institutions and of the officers also. As is well-known large amounts of money are being taken to the treasury and from there to the respective offices only by low-paid peons attached to the various Government institutions situated in distant places, especially very late in the evening. There is the likelyhood of risk and danger to the life and money in addition to the difficulties that the public are put to in ever, so many ways.

All these facts, I understand, have been reported to Government more than once. After all the opening of the Sub-Treasury cannot involve any very heavy additional expenditure, because, you may require only a clerk and one or two peons since the charge and other responsibilities of the sub-treasury can very well be entrusted to one of the two magistrates and their Head Clerks as deemed fit and

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convenient for the purpose. I would therefore request the Government to take early steps for the opening of a sub-treasury at Chengannur, and to redress this legitimate and long-felt grievance of the people of Chengannur.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: The matter of opening a sub-treasury at Chengannur is engaging the attention of Government.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 6.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move the following motion :

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowance by Re. 1

Sir, as a result of representations, made in this House as well as in the old Legislative Council, Government were pleased to pass orders abolishing market tolls on hand loads not exceedings 20 pounds in weight. I have dwelt on this matter at length in my speech during the general discussion of the budget.

Sir, according to the administration report of 1113 the total number of public markets in the State is 219, and that of the private markets at the end of the year 360. The total amount estimated for the next year, under market, is Rs. 1,05,000. It has been declared by Government more than once that their object in introducing the system of market tolls is to collect adequate funds for the improvement and proper maintenance of markets: and more than once they have assured this House that the whole of the collections from markets would be utilised in the improvement of the markets.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1. 3 P. M. and reassembled at 2 P. M.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: We were at cut motion No. 6. As I have been explaining, the real object of the introduction of the market toll in the State was to see that the whole amount realised by Government annually in the shape of market toll is utilised for the improvement of the public markets in the State. But from the Government records it is seen that not more than 8 per-cent of the total collection of the market toll is utilised for the purpose ear-marked by Government. As a result of the recent Government orders, I have no hesitation to say that the present arrangement will not, in any way, benefit the poor agriculturists who carry the fruits of their labours to the markets.

PRESIDENT: Is the honourable member's complaint only with regard to the fixation of the 20 lbs. or is it wider?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI. My complaint is that it is not practical or possible for any market contractor or market-going individual to ascertain beforehand whether the weight of all hand loads taken to the market exceed 20 lbs or not,

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PRESIDENT: I quite understand your point. Your complaint is that the fixation of the 20 lbs limit is unworkable?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: It is unworkable.

PRESIDENT: Is the honorable member's complaint with regard to the headload or is it possible for him to go step by step and abolish the 20 lbs limit?

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I will leave it to the decision of the Government. But anyhow the fixation of 20 lbs should be cancelled immediately and all hand loads irrespective of any weight should be absolutely exempted from the payment of market toll.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, considering what the member has said, I do not think there is any objection to reduce the toll on all hand loads.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Irrespective of the weight?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Yes.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: For the present I am satisfied and I do not press my motion.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

Motion No. 7.

The following motion was not moved :—

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,500/- for travelling allowance by Re. 1".

Motion No. 8.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I move that the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for Travelling Allowance be reduced by Re. 1. My object in moving this motion is to impress upon the Government the desirability of untilising the amounts collected by way of market tolls for improving the public markets and also for opening new markets. As I have already stated in connection with cut motion No.6, the object of the levy of the market toll was obviously with the idea of utilising the whole amount collected by way of market toll for the improvement of all the public markets in the State. But, Sir, I am constrained to submit that the actual expenditure for the improvement of the markets has not exceeded more than 8 per-cent of the total collection of the market tolls as can very well be seen from the Administration Report of the year 1113.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I hasten to correct the member. The expenditure in 1114 was Rs. 20,000 and the expenditure in 1115 is expected to be nearly Rs. 20,000.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know what was the actual expenditure for the improvement and maintenance of markets in 1113.

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MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Rs. 8,542.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: My submission therefore is that the expenditure for the improvement of the markets has not come to more than 8 per cent of the total collection in 1113. For a long time past, we have been making representations and urging upon the attention of the Government the indispensible necessity for making some improvements to the Kulanada market situated in the Thiruvella taluk, on the side of the M. C. Road near the Pandalam campshed. Government had promised to look into the matter very favourably and do the needful with regard to that matter. We have been waiting so long to see whether any useful result would arise out of that solemn promise. But sorry, to say Sir that nothing further was done in the matter. The real difficulty is this. After collecting the market toll the amount is now utilised by Government not for the purposes for which that system was introduced into the State but for altogether different purposes. The condition of many of the public markets in the State is very miserable and many of them are altogether neglected. So my submission is that if the policy underlying my cut motion is accepted by Government there will not be any difficulty in the matter and that policy may be worked out in future for the best advantage of the market-going people. So I move my cut motion for the acceptance of this House.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: As regards the figures supplied by the member, I beg to submit that in the year 1114 against a receipt of Rs. 1,05,000 about Rs. 20,000 was spent on markets and for the year 1115 it is expected that the same amount of Rs. 20,000 will be spent. I do not think Government have accepted the principle that all the receipts from the market will be spent for market improvement. Incidentally, for the proper maintenance of markets there are other items of expenditure like the police, the maintenance of roads and thodus leading to markets. These expenses are not taken into account in the maintenance of markets. It has been said by my predecessor that if there is some surplus there could be no objection to Government using it for other purposes than for mere market maintenance. I have also told the House that about Rs. 20,000 was spent in 1114 and the same amount is expected to be spent in 1115 also.

As regards the particular market which the honourable member has mentioned, I shall see, during the course of the year, whether I will be able to devote some money for that market.

With this assurance, I hope the honourable member will withdraw his motion.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I beg permission of the House to withdraw my motion.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

Motion No. 9.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY: Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs 2,500 for travelling allowance by Re. 1".

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[Mr. P. V. Mathai Chemparathy]

My object in moving this motion is to discuss the necessity for giving adequate representation to the Catholic community in the Land Revenue Department. I intend by this motion that all the unrepresented communities should get their due share of appointments in the Land Revenue Department. It is gratifying to note that the Government have accepted the principle and with that end in view the Public Service Commissioner has been appointed. But though the principle is accepted, in practice we do not see any appreciable improvement in the state of affairs. I am not going at this juncture to place before the House all the figures which are rather vexing. I know it is a legitimate grievance and I hope that you will redress the grievance of all the unrepresented communities. With these words I place the motion for the acceptance of the House.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: I beg to move an amendment.

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Sir, I rise to a point of order. An amendment to the motion cannot be moved. The motion is to reduce Re. 1 from the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowance. The motion must be to reduce Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 and not an amendment to this motion.

PRESIDENT: Let us see what the amendment is.

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Instead of the words "the Catholic community" insert the words "all inadequately represented communities".

PRESIDENT: The motion is designed to bring to the prominent attention of Government the inadequate representation of the Catholic community. It is quite open to the honourable member to say that other communities are inadequately represented by way of argument. But to add the words suggested by the member would be against, what may be called, the fundamental idea of the mover. I believe there are some other motions of a wider scope. But I take it that the object of this particular motion is to bring to the notice of Government the grievances of the Catholic community.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I rise to a point of order. The reduction of the proposed travelling allowance relates only to the travelling of the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner. But the scope of the motion is not that. Under the Rulings of the Chair reported on page 122 the motion is not strictly admissible and hence cannot be moved now.

> The purpose of a token motion and the debate on a token motion must be strictly relevant to the purpose for which the amount sought to be reduced is demanded. If the motion relate to the total grant for a department, the debate is allowed to range over the whole policy of the department. If the total sought to be reduced is a sub total, then the debate is allowed to range over only so much of the policy of the department as may, by a rule of relevancy, be apportioned to that sub-total If, for instance, the amount sought to be reduced is only the sing o item of travelling Allowance, the motion must be strictly confined to the travelling of the officer for

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whose travelling the amount is demanded. If the amount sought to be reduced is the amount of salaries for clerks, the debate must be confined to the work of the clerks."

PRESIDENT: I think the honourable member is right. The motion is ruled out of order. I find on the motion for reduction of total grants the question of communal representation has been raised. So the honourable member might discuss the whole matter under that item.

Motion No. 10.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY: Sir, I beg to move that Rs -,:00 for travelling allowance be reduced by Re. 1.

My object is moving this motion is to bring to the notice of Government that a good deal of hardship is experienced by the ordinary tax payers in paying their tax because many of them live at a distance of 13 or 14 miles from the Pakuthy Cutcherry to which the tax is to be paid. If a man has to pay tax of Re. 1 he will have to spend 5 or 6 chuckrams for motor fare to go to the Pakuthy Cutcherry to pay his tax. I want also to bring to the attention of Government that the number of Pakuthy Cutcherries in my taluk is only 5. This is a great handicap both to the tax payers and to the tax collecting people of the Revenue Department. So I want the Government to realise the necessity of increasing the number of Pakuthy Cutcherries in my taluk. With these observations I move my motion for the acceptance of the House.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: Sir, this motion is also similar to the one already moved.

PRESIDENT: I have been noticing that ruling. We have been allowing the discussion in regard to T. A. to range somewhat more freely than might be technically admissible. Let us take for instance the question of corruption of an officer coming under his T. A. during the discussion. It might be said because the person did not travel more strenuously or intensively and so he was corrupt. But I did not want to be too meticulous in restricting the scope of discussion. So I am not going to be too strict about that.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: In Thodupuzha the Pakuthy Cutcherries are distributed far between and they may need splitting up as the honourable member has suggested. The pakuthy of Karicode is too extensive. But there is this unfortunate difficulty. The question of splitting up of pakuthies cannot be taken up between one settlement and another. There will be complications in the matter of accountss and, so, that question can be considered during the next settlement. While it may be possible to consider the amalgamation of two pakuthies before the next settlement, it is very difficult to consider the question of breaking up of a pakuthy. So, I request the honourable member will withdraw the motion.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY: In view of the explanation given by the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner, I withdraw the motion.

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Motion No. 11.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY : Sir, I beg to move that Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowance be reduced by Re. 1.

PRESIDENT : How do you bring this motion under this heading?

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY: Sir, my object is that if the Revenue Commissioner is to travel he will be in a position to understand the real difficulties experienced by Puduval Land Registry holders in paying the tharavila and other dues to Government.

PRESIDENT : The honourable member will realise that the hardships experienced in paying the tharavila is a matter of general principle and cannot come under the T. A. of the Land Revenue Commissioner. The motion is not in order.

Motion No 12.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY : Sir, I beg to move that Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowance be reduced by Re. 1.

My object in moving this motion is not to dilate too much upon the corruption prevailing among the subordinate officers in the department. It is only to bring to the attention of the Land Revenue Commissioner and of the Government that there is corruption prevalent among the officers connected with the Pakuthy Cutcherries. In this connection I may bring to the notice of this House that when once the present Land Revenue Commissioner was circuiting in the rural parts of the Thodupuzha taluk I was pleased to hear from the ryots that the Land Revenue Commissioner was enquiring about the needs of them and was assuring them that any complaint would be soon attended to thereafter. This was overheard by an Accountant and he reported to one of his friends that it would be very dangerous for them if the Commissioner came to understand about their corrupt practices. So by circuit and inspection an officer can come into contact with the ryots of the land and by sympathetic enquiry and assurances he could infuse faith in them. The present Land Revenue Commissioner is a good example to be followed by other heads of departments. With this object in view I move the motion for the kind acceptance of the House.

MR. JOHN JOSEPH : സർ, ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെംബർ മി. മത്തായി ചെമ്പരത്തി അവതരിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ ഹാർദ്ദമായി പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. ഞാൻ അങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതിന്റെ ഉദ്ദേശം ഭൂമി പതിവു വിഷയത്തിൽ അവശസമുദായക്കാർ റവന്യൂഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ കീഴ്ജീവനക്കാരിൽനിന്നു അനുഭവിച്ചുവരുന്ന വിഷമങ്ങളെ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ദിവാൻജി അവർകളുടെയും ലാൻറ് റവന്യൂകമ്മീഷണർ അവർകളുടെയും ശ്രദ്ധയിൽപ്പെടുത്തണമെന്നുള്ളതാണ്. ഒന്നാമതായി ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും അനേകം ഏക്കർ സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ പല താലൂക്കുകളിലായി അവശസമുദായക്കാരുടെ പേരിൽ സൗജന്യമായി പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു നീക്കിവച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്. അങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ പതിച്ചു

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കൊടുന്നില്ലെന്നമാത്രമല്ല പ്രവേശനംപോലും അനുവദിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നും ക്രൂടി വ്യസനസമേതം പറയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. അതേ സമയംതന്നെ ഉയന്നസമുദായക്കാർക്കു തിരിച്ചിട്ട സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പ്രവേശിക്കുന്നതിന് അനുവാദം നൽകുകയും അങ്ങനെ ഈ വശസമുദായങ്ങളെ ദ്രോഹിക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. തിരിച്ചിട്ട സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പ്രവേശനാനുവാദത്തിനു ചെല്ലുന്ന അവശസമുദായാംഗങ്ങളെ ഭയപ്പെടുത്തുകയും നിങ്ങൾ ദിവാൻജിയുടെ അടുത്തു ചെന്നു ഒരു ഉത്തരവു് കയ്യിൽ വാങ്ങിച്ചുകൊണ്ടുവന്നാൽ പ്രവേശിപ്പിക്കാമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു് അവരെ മടക്കുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ഇതു് സ്വാധീനബലമുള്ള സമുദായക്കാരെ പ്രവേശിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും അവർനിന്നും ആദായം പറ്റുന്നതിനും ചെയ്യുന്ന ഒരു തന്ത്രമാണെന്നു ബോധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. അപേക്ഷകകക്ഷികൾ അവശസമുദായകുസ്തൃാനികളാണെങ്കിൽ, ഈ ദിവാൻജി വന്നതിന്റെ ശേഷം നിങ്ങളുടെ സകല അവകാശങ്ങളും എടുത്തുകളഞ്ഞു എന്നു പറഞ്ഞു് അവരെ വിരട്ടി ഓടിക്കയുമാണു് ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ പതിവു്. പല താലൂക്കുകളിലും സഞ്ചരിച്ചു് അവശസമുദായക്കാരുടെ പേരിൽ ഭൂമി പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു സഹായിച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരാളാണു ഞാൻ. ദിവാൻജി ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള ഒരു കഠിനഹൃദയനല്ലെന്നും അവരോടു വളരെ ദയവുള്ള ആളാണെന്നും അവർക്കുവേണ്ടി ഇതിനുമുമ്പുണ്ടായിരുന്ന ദിവാൻജിമാർ ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ളതിൽ കൂടുതൽ സൗജന്യങ്ങളും ഈ ദിവാൻജി നൽകുന്നുണ്ടെന്നും ഞാൻ പല സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലും പ്രസംഗിച്ചു് ഈ തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണനീക്കിവരികയാണു്. അവശസമുദായക്കാരുടെ ഭൂമിപതിവു സൗജന്യം പിൻവലിച്ചിട്ടില്ലെന്നു് ഒരു സർക്കുലർ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഗസറ്റിൽ പരസ്യം ചെയ്യണമെന്നപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു. ദൃഷ്ടാന്തമായി മന്നാൻകണ്ടത്തിൽ അവശർക്കു തിരിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളസ്ഥലം എടുക്കാം. അവിടെ ഇതേവരെ അവശരെ പ്രവേശിപ്പിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. പ്രവേശനാനുവാദത്തിനു അപേക്ഷയും കൊണ്ടു് താലൂക്കു് അധികൃതന്മാരെ സമീപിച്ച അവശസമുദായാംഗങ്ങളോടു് ദിവാൻജിയുടെ ഉത്തരവു കൊണ്ടുചെല്ലാൻ പറഞ്ഞിരിക്കയാണു്. ഇതേസമയം തന്നെ ഉയന്ന സമുദായക്കാരെ, മന്നാൻകണ്ടത്തിൽ തിരിച്ചിട്ട സ്ഥലത്തു്, താലൂക്കധികൃതന്മാർ പ്രവേശിപ്പിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞു. എല്ലാ താലൂക്കുകളിലേയും സ്ഥിതി ഇതുതന്നെയാണു്. അതിനാൽ തിരിച്ചിട്ട സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പ്രവേശിച്ചു ഉയന്നസമുദായക്കാരെ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നിറക്കി അവശർക്കു പ്രവേശനം നൽകി പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നും ഉത്തരവുകൊടുക്കുണമെന്നപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

രണ്ടാമതായി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ള സംഗതി ഇതിനേക്കാൾ കൂഷ്ണതരമായിട്ടുള്ള ഒന്നാണു്. പത്തും പതിനഞ്ചും കൊല്ലങ്ങൾക്കുമുമ്പേ

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[Mr. John Joseph]

പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കപ്പെടാവുന്ന പുറമ്പോക്ക് സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഉത്തമവിശ്വാസത്തിന്മേൽ, പ്രവേശിച്ച ദേഹണ്ഡങ്ങളും ഉറപ്പിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അവശ്യം സ്ഥലം പുറമ്പോക്കാണെന്നുംപറഞ്ഞ് കേസെടുത്തു ശിക്ഷിച്ചു പുറത്താക്കി വരുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതാണ്. ഇതരസമുദായക്കാരോട് കൈമടക്കു വാങ്ങിക്കൊണ്ട് അങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരുടെ പേരിൽ പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനായിട്ടാണ് ഇവർ ഈ കടുംകൈ പ്രവർത്തിക്കുന്നത്. ഇതിനും പുറമേ അവശ്യം ഗവണ്മെന്റു കാര്യനിർവ്വഹണത്തിനായി ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിക്കൊടുക്കുന്നതിനായിട്ടാണ് പുറമ്പോക്കുകൾ പതിച്ചു കൊടുക്കുന്നതല്ലെന്നും വ്യാഖ്യാനിച്ചും പറഞ്ഞുംകൊണ്ടുംകൂടെയാണ് അവരെ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്നും അടിച്ചിറക്കുന്നത്. ഇപ്രകാരമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽത്തന്നെ പൗരന്മാരായി ജീവിക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. എങ്കിൽമാത്രമെ അവർക്കു പോഷകാഹാരവും ഉണ്ടായിരിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. അവർക്കു പോഷകാഹാരമുണ്ടായിരുന്നാൽ അതു ഗവണ്മെന്റിനു എക്കാലത്തും സഹായകരമായിരിക്കും. പട്ടിണിക്കാരായിമാത്രം കഴിഞ്ഞുകൂടുന്ന അവരുടെ പരമദാരിദ്ര്യാവസ്ഥയിൽനിന്ന് അവരെ വിമുക്തരാക്കുന്നതിനും ഇതു പര്യാപ്തമാണ്. അതിനാൽ അവശർ പത്തും പതിനഞ്ചും വർഷങ്ങളായി താമസിച്ച് ദേഹണ്ഡങ്ങൾ ഉറപ്പിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽനിന്ന് അവരെ ഇറക്കിവിടുന്നതിന് ഒരു പ്രകാരത്തിലും അനുവദിക്കാതെ അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ കൈവശക്കാരായ അവശരുടെ പേരിൽ പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം വേണ്ട ഉത്തരവു പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കാറാകണമെന്നപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, the charge is that there is corruption prevailing among the subordinate staff. I have been on circuit for ten months since I assumed charge and have inspected all the Pakuthy Cutcherries in twelve taluks. Wherever I have heard complaints I have given the necessary warning to the Tahsildars and their subordinates that if any complaint is received, drastic action will be taken on it. I would request the honourable members to bring instances of corruption to my notice and I may assure them that I will be very strict in dealing with such cases.

Having regard to the registry of lands for the members of the backward communities, Mr. John Joseph said that preference is not given to their applications. But there is one thing of which I should warn Mr. Joseph. Encroachments should not be made on tank-beds or cattle grazing grounds and it is a well-known fact that Travancore is badly in need of grazing lands.

If there is any other land available for registry and if the depressed classes of people would come and ask for registry of that land, I should be the first man to encourage their application and I assure the House that I will do all that I can.

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MR. JOHN JOSEPH : അവശസമുദായങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി തിരിച്ചിട്ട സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ ഇതരസമുദായക്കാർ പ്രവേശിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതായും ചൂണ്ടിക്കാണിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ അവക്കു വീണ്ടും തിരിച്ചു പതിച്ചുകൊടുക്കുവാൻ ഗവൺമെൻറു തയ്യാറാകുമോ?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO : എവിടെ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങൾ, ആരാണ് പ്രവേശിച്ചത് എന്നു എടുത്തുപറഞ്ഞാൽ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഞാൻ മറുപടി പറയാം.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY : Sir, in the light of the explanation given by the Land Revenue Commissioner I withdraw the cut motion.

The motion, by leave of the House, was withdrawn,

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY : Sir, I do not wish to move the next motion standing to my name.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : Sir, I beg to move to reduce the allotment of Rs 2,500 for travelling allowance by Rs 10 to discuss about the undesirability of closing the old market at Nadayara.

PRESIDENT : Your point is that the travel has been only one-sided and that the market would not have been closed if the Revenue Commissioner had travelled in those areas also.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിൻറെ ഉദ്ദേശം നടയറയിൽ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്ന പഴയ മാക്കറിന് ലൈസൻസ്സ് കൊടുക്കാതെ അതു ക്ലോസ്സുചെയ്യുവാൻ ആജ്ഞാപിച്ചതു് അനൌചിത്യമായിപ്പോയി എന്നു് ഗവൺമെൻറിൻറെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരിക എന്നുള്ളതാണ്. ഒരു പ്രത്യേക മാക്കറിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു് പറഞ്ഞു് ഈ സഭയുടെ സമയം കളയുന്നതിനുവേണ്ടിയുള്ള ഒരു മോഷൻ ഞാൻ കൊണ്ടുവരുവാൻ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചതുതന്നെ വളരെ വിഷമിച്ചാണെന്നു് പറയാതിരിക്കാൻ തരമില്ല. പ്രത്യേക സംഗതികളെക്കൊണ്ടു, പൊതുവേയുള്ള സംഗതികളെപ്പറ്റി, പ്രതിപാദിക്കേണ്ട സന്ദർഭങ്ങളെ അനാവശ്യമായി ചെലവാക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ലെന്നു് എനിക്കറിയാം. എന്നാൽ ഈ ഒരു സംഗതി ഒരു മനുഷ്യൻറെ ആയുസ്സു മുഴുവൻ സമ്പാദിച്ചാൽപ്പോലും കിട്ടാത്ത ₹ ൦ — ൫ ൦ ൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപ മുടക്കിയ ഒരു സ്ഥാപനം ഇനി ഒരാദായവും കിട്ടാത്ത രീതിയിൽ അടച്ചിത്തീർത്തിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണ്. നടയറ ചന്ത എല്ലാവരുടേയും ശ്രദ്ധയെ ആകർഷിച്ചിരിക്കുന്ന ഒരു സ്ഥലമാണ്. അവിടെ ഏകദേശം ൩ ൦ ൦ ൦ രൂപ ചെലവാക്കി കെട്ടിടങ്ങളും ഉണ്ടാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആ കെട്ടിടങ്ങളുടെ എല്ലാം ജീവൻ ഈ മാക്കറിലാണ് സ്ഥിതിചെയ്യുന്നതു്. അതിനടുത്തു് മറൊരു മാക്കറിന് ലൈസൻസ്സു കൊടുക്കുന്നതുതന്നെ നിയമവിരുദ്ധമായിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്.

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[Mr. P. S. Muhamed]

അഥവാ അതു കൊടുത്താൽ ഇതുംകൂടി നടത്തുവാൻ അനുവദിക്കാതെ ക്ലോസ്സുചെയ്യണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞതു വളരെ സങ്കടകരമായ ഒരു സംഗതിയാകുന്നു. രണ്ടാമതു ലൈസൻസു കൊടുത്ത മാർക്കറ്റ് ക്ലോസ്സുചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. മുന്നകിൽ, രണ്ടുസ്ഥലത്തും, കുറെദിവസം അവിടേയും കുറെദിവസം ഇവിടേയും നടത്തുന്നതിനോ അല്ലെങ്കിൽ ഒരേസമയത്തു അവിടേയും ഇവിടേയും നടത്തുന്നതിനു അനുവദിക്കയൊ ചെയ്യുക. രണ്ടുകൂട്ടരുടേയും പണം, പണം ആണെന്നും പ്രത്യേകിച്ചും ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ഗതാഗതസൌകര്യവും മറ്റു സൌകര്യങ്ങളും ഉള്ള നടയറ ചന്തയാണ് കൂടുതൽ അത്യന്താപേക്ഷിതമെന്നും ഗവണ്മെൻറ് മനസ്സിലാക്കണം. രണ്ടാമത്തേതുകൂടി നടക്കണമെന്നുള്ള ഉദ്ദേശം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ രണ്ടുകൂട്ടർക്കും അതിനുള്ള സൌകര്യം കൊടുക്കേണ്ടതാണ്. അങ്ങിനെ, രണ്ടുകൂട്ടരേയും രക്ഷിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണമുള്ള ഒരു ഉപക്ഷേപമാണ് ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്.

MR. M. RAMA CHANDRA RAO : Sir, the question relates to a market at Varkala. At Nadayara there was a private market which was being conducted by a Mahomedan contractor. The Government policy now is to stop all private markets and to convert them all into public markets. The private market owner was approached with a view to declare the market as a public one without asking for compensation and he has refused. Government have, thereupon, opened another market in about a mile from the first market. The file regarding this came before me as soon as I took charge of this office; Government had directed me to inspect the two places. I went and inspected the two sites personally and found that the latter place was a more convenient one. There was no market in the second site and it was acquired by Government. Government decided that there should be only one market and that was fixed in the second site.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : രണ്ടാമതു തുടങ്ങിയ മാർക്കറ്റ് ഗവണ്മെൻറ് മാർക്കറ്റാണെന്നാണോ മെംബർ പറയുന്നത്?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO : അതെ.

As regards the proposal of Mr. Mahomed to permit the new market to work as well as the old, I must say, that unfortunately if the old market is given license the new one will suffer badly.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED : ഇപ്പോൾ നടക്കുന്ന മാർക്കറ്റ് ഗവണ്മെൻറ് മാർക്കറ്റാണെന്നു പറയുന്നതുകൊണ്ടും ആദ്യത്തെ മാർക്കറ്റു ഗവണ്മെൻറിലേക്കു വിട്ടുകൊടുക്കുമോ എന്നു അറിയേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നതുകൊണ്ടും ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പ്രസ്സുചെയ്യണമെന്നു വിചാരിക്കുന്നില്ല.

MR. M. RAMA CHANDRA RAO : I am sure of it and I can assure the house of it.

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MR. P. S. MUHOMED : I withdraw the motion.

The motion, by leave of the House, was withdrawn.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM : Sir, I do not wish to move the cut motion (15) standing to my name.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : Sir, I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2, 500 for travelling allowance by Rs 5 to discuss about local needs.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : സർ, ഓരോ താലൂക്കിലും പകുതികളിലും ആവശ്യമുള്ള സംഗതികൾ കമ്മീഷണരുടെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ വരുന്നില്ല എന്നുള്ളതു കാണിക്കാനാണ് ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നത്. ഒരു പകുതിയിൽ രണ്ടു പകുതിക്കച്ചേരികൾ നടത്തുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. ഓരോ പകുതികളിടേയും മദ്ധ്യസ്ഥലത്തുവേണം പകുതിക്കച്ചേരി സ്ഥാപിക്കാൻ. കിഴക്കമ്പലത്തു (കുന്നത്തുനാട് താലൂക്കിൽ) രണ്ടു പകുതിക്കച്ചേരികൾ (കിഴക്കമ്പലം—കുന്നത്തുനാട്) ഒരു പകുതിക്കച്ചേരി നടത്തുന്നതിനു തന്നെ സൌകര്യമൊ സ്ഥലമൊ ഇല്ലാത്ത ഒരു കെട്ടിടത്തിലാണു നടത്തിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്നതു്. അതു് അഭിലഷണീയമല്ല. ഇപ്പോൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് കേട്ടവന്ന പല പകുതിക്കച്ചേരി കെട്ടിടങ്ങളും ലേലംചെയ്തു വിറ്റിട്ടുണ്ടു്. പകരം കെട്ടിടങ്ങൾ പണിയിക്കയാണെങ്കിലും വാടകയ്ക്കു എടുക്കയാണെങ്കിലും അവകൾ ടി പകുതികളുടെ മദ്ധ്യത്തിലായിരിക്കണം എന്നു ഞാൻ പ്രത്യേകം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനെ ഓർമ്മിപ്പിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

അതുപോലെ ചന്തസ്ഥലത്തുനിന്നും ടോൾ പിരിക്കുന്നതിനു ഗവണ്മെൻറു യാതൊരു ലോഭവും കാണിക്കുന്നില്ലെങ്കിലും അവിടെ വരുന്ന വക്കു മഴ നനയാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനും സാമാനങ്ങൾ നനഞ്ഞു ചീത്തയാകാതിരിക്കുന്നതിനും മറ്റും യാതൊരു സൌകര്യങ്ങളും ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നില്ല. കാളച്ചന്തകളിൽ മതിലുകൾ കെട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു കന്നുകാലികൾ ഓടിപ്പോകയുംമറ്റും ചെയ്യുന്നു. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ എത്രയും വേഗം മതിലുകൾ കെട്ടിക്കൊടുക്കണം. അതുപോലെതന്നെ വെള്ളത്തിൻറെ സൌകര്യവും ഉണ്ടാക്കിക്കൊടുക്കണം. ഓരോ ചന്തയിൽ നിന്നും ആയിരവും ആയിരത്തഞ്ഞൂറും രൂപാവീതം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു ആണ്ടുതോറും കിട്ടുന്നുണ്ടു. ആ സംഖ്യ ചന്തയുടെ ആവശ്യത്തിനു എടുത്തുപയോഗിച്ചതിനുശേഷമുള്ള സംഖ്യയല്ലാതെ മറ്റു കാര്യങ്ങൾക്കുവേണ്ടി എടുക്കുന്നതു ശരിയല്ല. കമ്മീഷണർ ആ വക സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ യാത്രചെയ്താൽ ഈ സംഗതി ശരിയായി അറിയാൻകഴിയും എന്നുള്ള വിചാരത്തോടുകൂടിയാണു് അദ്ദേഹത്തിൻറെ ട്രാവലിംഗ് അലവൻസ് ഇനത്തിൽ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം അവതരിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു്.

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MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir the instance which the honourable member has drawn attention to is that two pakuthies are located under one house. This is not the only instance of the kind; I may say that such cases are now engaging my attention.

Regarding new Pakuthy Cutcherries there is a type designed by the Chief Engineer and approved by Government. Each building will cost Rs. 2,000. Each year one or two Pakuthi Cutcherries will be put-up. I shall do my utmost to see that the cutcheries are located as far as possible in the middle of the pakuthy.

As regards Perumbavoor market a sum has been sanctioned this year for the purposes of sheds and other conveniences. I shall also see whether I can allot any amount for the cattle market.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: I do not press.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: I beg to move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,500 for travelling allowance by Re. 1 to point out that the Land Revenue Commissioner should, during his travel, examine tanks and tank-beds as to whether they are encroached by private owners with special reference to tanks and tank-beds in Neendakara A & B pakuthies in Agastiswaram taluk.

Sir, in the A and B pakuthies of Neendakara, in Agastiswaram taluk, there are more than 25 irrigation tanks. Now the beds of those tanks are held by the owners of the adjoining ground. I do not propose to deal with all those tanks excepting four important ones. The first one I may take up is the Champakulam in the Neendakara B pakuthy. It is about 30 acres in extent. The tank is named after the late Sir M. Krishnan Nair. It is found that the tank is encroached by the owners of the neighbouring area, so much so, the storage capacity of the tank is reduced.

The second tank I have to mention about is the Asarikulam tank near the Asarikulam village. Regarding this tank I have asked a question which appears among the interpellations. It was stated in my question: "Whether Government are aware of a momorial submitted requesting for the improvement of the tank in S. 902 A and C in 1114? (b) whether any encroachment on the tank is made? If the answer is in the affirmative, (c) the number of acres and the action taken thereon?"

The third tank to which I may draw your attention is the Perumalkulam. It is 35 acres in extent. Exactly 27½ acres are given to one ex-M. L. C. on Kuthagapattom. Now, Sir, he has encroached on the remaining portion of the tank. When the people of those parts ask him whether it was right to encroach on those tank-beds the usual reply will be.....

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR: Sir, one question.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: I don't yield. Sir, his answer was "All the important officers are now known to me and the Tahsildars, the Division Peishkar and the present Land Revenue Commissioner are persons with whom I am familiar. They are all my friends. Therefore what action can you take? I will do as I like."

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Sir, then coming to the other tank, namely, the 'Murungavilla kulam.' It is in S. No. 4,560. Some six months back there was an attempt to register that tank. The applicant had deposited in the Taluk Office Rs. 500 and at the request of the public and mine the Division Peishkar Mr. Parameswara Panickar visited the spot and made recommendation to the Land Revenue Commissioner to the effect that the tank should not be registered. The Land Revenue Commissioner did not register the tank in his name but still the applicant is retaining all the five acres of the tank. It is regrettable to find that the same person is still irrigating all those acres. That only shows the weakness of Government. Even the local Tahsildar and the Proverthicar are aware of that fact; they are not prepared to take any action.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know the name of the gentleman who is irrigating those acres for the last so many years?

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: He is one Mr. R. Subramonia Pillai.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, I wish to offer a few words in this motion. There are certain irrigation tanks in the adjoining sea coasts. The fields in those areas are fed by the channel water. The particular tank-bed that is being irrigated by R. S. Pillai was once proposed to be auctioned. Rs. 33,000 was secured on that land by means of auction. The people of the locality are divided into two parties. One is the Nadar party and the other the Vellala party. The Nadar party wanted to get it in auction and the Vellala party wanted that sale to be cancelled. In order to achieve that object the Vellala party presented a petition to the Dewan to that effect. On account of some interference, unfortunately no bidders came to purchase it in the first instance. After the second notification some arrangements were made for auctioning the land. Under that arrangement R. S. Pillai got it.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: It has been given on Kuthagapattom.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I have seen that tank myself and the renovation of the whole of it is an impossibility. Considering that difficult aspect of the restoration of the whole area it is better that some area may be registered piece-meal. I fully support the principle namely, that no tank-bed should be registered in favour of parties.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I find from the office file that an area of 27 acres have been given on Kuthagapattom to R. S. Pillai. This lease expires in two year's time after which Government have ordered that, that particular tank-bed should not be registered therafter. It is the policy of Government not to register tank-beds hereafter and I may assure the House that no inch of such ground will be recommended for being registered either by the Tahsildar or the Division Peishkar or by the Land Revenue Commissioner.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: May I know from Government whether any land commanded by the Kodayar project will be given on thagapattom?

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MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: There is no objection if any tank-bed is leased on Kuthagapattom till its renovation is taken up by Government.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Is the member aware that lands were given to Mr. R. S. Pillai for a very nominal sum of Rs. 250 although the area contains about 27 acres.

PRESIDENT: Is this not a post mortem examination?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Yes, Sir.

Not only that Government are not going to stop registry of tank beds, but the moment that those beds require renovation, they will be assumed back by Government. On this assurance, I trust that the member will see his way to withdraw the motion.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: If the tank-beds are to be given on kuthagapattom, will it not give room for unnecessary litigation between the Government on the one side and the parties on the other at the time of eviction?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: No, Sir. The conditions have been fixed in respect of each lease. The lessee must return the land whenever wanted by Government.

PRESIDENT: I am glad this question has come up. I am able to assure the House that one-third of the trouble in many localities is due to registration of tank-beds. That is not only lessening the catchment area and lessening the possibilities of improving the tanks, but has really increased the difficulty attendant on the Kodayar Project and irrigation under it. So Government have to pursue an inflexible policy never to register any tank-bed hereafter, under any circumstance whatsoever. Moreover, as soon as a tank is likely to be taken up for renovation, all kuthagapattom tenures will come to an automatic termination. Leases will be given only on that basis and under that definite understanding.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir, I beg to withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motions 18 to 21.

The following motions were not moved.

18. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Rupee 1.

19. Do.
20. Do. Do. Do.
21. Do. Do. Do.
Do. Do.

Motion 22.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I move the following motion:

"To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue a Income Tax Commissioner by Rupee 1."

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There are a large number of revenue copyists in the Land Revenue Department and among them, especially in the Taluk Cutchrries, and a few among them are duly qualified people on account of their educational qualifications and long service in the department as copyists waiting to be absorbed in the permanent establishment of the department. I am not here for favouring any particular community as a result of the acceptance of this motion. I know as a matter of fact that candidates belonging to all communities are there among the duly qualified revenue copyists. The ex-Land Revenue Commissioner was pleased to state on behalf of Government, on the floor of this House in answer to an interpellation as well as to a similar cut motion, that the question of the absorption of these duly qualified revenue copyists into the permanent establishment had been engaging his earnest consideration. In the face of that statement, I am at a loss to understand why no earnest steps have been taken in the matter and a satisfactory solution arrived at. Sir, I wish to hear from the Land Revenue Commissioner about the number of such duly qualified revenue copyists now in the department and whether he or his predecessors in office have taken any step hitherto in this question. I have no hesitation to suggest that if such a course is adopted it will be most beneficial to the interests of the department. Such a step will benefit the duly qualified candidates also. With these observations, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, the question of the revenue copyists in the Land Revenue Department is not a new one to Travancore. The same system is followed in British India and elsewhere. The present rules of the department do not allow the absorption of these men in the permanent establishment of the department. That is the main difficulty.

As regards the number of such men, I gather, it is 74. Among them, I am not quite sure how many are duly qualified. I believe this question was taken up some time back and it was found that the time was not opportune. Under such circumstances, I trust the question could be taken after some time. As it is, the question has to lie over. There is another aspect of the problem. There is still a facility for these people to enter into the regular service whenever occasions arise. That loophole has not been completely shut. In view of that favourable aspect, I request the mover to consider it.

Mr. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI. May I know from the member, when did Government arrive at the conclusion that no immediate steps could be taken to solve this question?

Mr. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: 6th January 1939.

Mr. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I ask, will the number of such duly qualified people be more than 10?

Mr. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I have not got those figures just at present.

Mr. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether their services will not be more useful for the department in view of their qualifications and long experience in the department?

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MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: May be.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether it is not a sufficient justification for their immediate absorption in the permanent establishment of the Land Revenue Department?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: But unfortunately the rules prohibit their absorption.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I ask whether this is a new recruitment in view of the fact that they have been working in the department for a very long time past?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Their pay was being met from the contingencies of the department.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the Land Revenue Commissioner whether this question will be favourably considered in the near future?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I shall try my level best to take it up.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: I beg to withdraw my motion.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 23.

The following motion was not moved:

23. MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI:
To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.

Motion No. 24.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Sir, I beg to move

"to redure the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1."

Sir, the condition of the ryots has become very bad; the economic depression is continuing unabated; and, combined with this, there is failure of crops in many parts. Even with regard to paddy fields, the present Chingom crops have proved a failure in many places, especially in Central Travancore. Many places are left uncultivated on account of the excessive rain at the time of sowing and in places where cultivation was effected and the crops were promising at the beginning, the crops were subsequently damaged on account of want of rain But none of these factors have been considered by the revenue authorities in realising the arrears of tax. The demand notices are increasing out of all proportion and the revenue sales have become very great with the rasult that the lands of the ryots are being sold at a very nominal price. The average price per acre in 1113 for wet lands was Rs. 15 and for garden lands was Rs. 14. This is far below even five per cent. of the actual price of the land. All this loss has been suffered by the ryots on account of the coercive processes adopted by the Land Revenue Department. So, it is necessary to grant some concession to them and the coercive steps taken by the department should be suspended for a time.

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MR. M. KESAVA PANICKAR : Sir, I rise to support the motion and add a few words with particular reference to the taluk of Neyyattinkara. The economic depression is prevailing in a very acute state in my taluk. To add to it, the epidemic of malaria is rampant in that part of the country. It is gratifying to find that Government have realised the necessity for taking relief measures in that taluk. Especially in view of this fact, my suggestion is that the coercive steps in that taluk must be suspended for some time at least.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDHANAN NAIR : On referring to page 16 of the Budget I find that the Land Revenue Commissioner expects something like a lakh of rupees to be collected from process fees. Sir, the majority of this amount is to come from demand notices issued. Rightly or wrongly, and I say wrongly, with an emphasis and a purpose, because it is a common practice to issue demand notices on a single person for the recovery of a single tax on a single property. So also, when a man owns more than one property, generally a good number of demand notices are issued for the recovery of the taxes on those lands. This may sound strange, but unfortunately this is the practice. Of course there are some difficulties in the maintenance of the registers up-to-date, but we are not to be found fault with for having the register kept like that. In this case, the proverthicars and their assistants are either guilty of commission or ommission. I do not understand, Sir, why the demand notices are issued to the successors of patta holders when the patta holders alone are responsible for the payment of the tax. May I add, Sir, that this is only taking back by one hand what has been given by the other. If so, it is very pitiable. Remission of tax, Sir, is given in recognition of the incapacity of the tax-payer to pay tax. Having done it, it is a pity to take back in another way what has already been remitted. Sir, on account of this pernicious practice of issuing demand notices by the proverthicars people who have to pay 10 or 12 chackrams as tax had to pay more than that amount on demand notices issued to them. If the Land Revenue Commissioner can find it convenient to come with me to Karunagapally, I shall show him several instances of the kind. I do not mean to say that demand notices should not be issued. We do not want to evade or avoid payment of tax. We only want that we should not be victimized for the callous indifference of the subordinates of the department. So, with all the vehemence that I can command I condemn this policy of the department. Hence I support the motion before the House.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI : Sir, regarding the realisation of tax, I can place before the House the difficulties and sufferings of the ryots of South Travancore. Sir, the Oodukur Special Officer had occasion to find out the difficulties of the pattadars in the Oodukur taluks of South Travancore. There are instances of 2,000 part owners of a single survey number. There are instances of a single tree owned by many persons. There are instances of families owning properties under oodukur along with other tenures. Under this contigency, that a hard-hearted revenue officer should be placed in a particular taluk and that

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[Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai.]

he should empower the Proverthicars to do anything is very hard on the ryots. Sir, I used to place facts as they are and I used to place them before this Assembly. I represented to the Chief Secretary, I represented to the Revenue Commissioner, I represented to the Division Peishkar about the transfer of Mr. V. S. Gopala Pillai, one of the corrupt officers of this State.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, is it in order for a member to make such personal references about any officer?

PRESIDENT: Order, order. It is a very serious responsibility for any hon'ble member to make a definite statement that a particular named official is guilty of corruption. But if any hon'ble member of this House in the discharge of his responsibility as a representative of the people is thoroughly convinced of the authenticity or truth of what he is saying and he says that from his place on that responsibility, then of course it is a very serious charge which Government would have to consider. At the same time Government is aware that on these occasions the officer has no chance or opportunity to defend himself on the floor of the House. Therefore, hon'ble members would be very chary of making those aspersions. But if those charges are made and persisted in, Government will take due note of those charges and make enquiries and hon'ble members who make charges in a light-hearted vein would also have to be dealt with by the House and by the authorities. But it is quite within the limits of an honorary member's jurisdiction in this House that in cases of well-known corruption, if they think that they have got sufficient materials at their disposal—it is not only their duty but their right to bring it with the full knowledge of the responsibility that they are taking and the risks attendant upon such procedure.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, in my observations regarding the conduct of a particular officer, I am not in the habit of stating frivolous facts. I simply place before this House the seriousness of the situation in having such an officer there.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. Honourable member must make up his mind. As I said, as a custodian of the peoples interests every representative who comes to this House has a sacred duty to discharge. If in the discharge of that duty he thinks it necessary or expedient to level a charge against anybody, however high under His Highness' rule, he is entitled to do so. But he must do so with the full sense of responsibility and making himself responsible for those allegations. I take it, knowing the sense of responsibility of the honourable member, that he has done so on that basis. I take it that it is so.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, I do not want to adduce evidence or.....

PRESIDENT: Order, order, order. That is hardly the point. This particular case may be important or may not be important; but it raises very large issues and I think those issues must be resolved. That

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is this. The honourable member has mentioned a name. As that name has been mentioned, it has now become the duty of Government to go into that matter and investigate it immediately. I mean that it is not possible in the interests of the officer concerned, in the interests of public service and in the interests of Government to leave the matter there. The moment an officer's name is mentioned either for corruption or inefficiency or any other matter, the Government, if it has been moved in that behalf, as it must be taken it is moved by direct mention of his name by an honourable member of this House, will have to enquire into this matter.

Now that the name has been mentioned, Government have no other alternative. I take it that the honourable member is willing that the enquiry should take place.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I will be satisfied with the transfer of the individual. It is very difficult for non-officials to prove primarily; but from previous conduct as well as experience in the locality.....

PRESIDENT: There again I must join issue with my honourable friend. Now, on this question of transferring there seems to be a kind of general superstition here that if you transfer a man from one place to another there is some kind of stigma cast upon him. That is an illusion which must be definitely knocked out of people's minds. The question is whether any desciplinary action is going to be taken against a corrupt officer. Government have issued very strict instructions in that behalf and have also stated that if any persons can bring forward charges and substantiate charges of corruption, those who are guilty of offering bribes for instance will not be proceeded against by Government as abettors. It is open to honourable members of this House and members of the public to make a charge of corruption against any officer of Government, however highly placed in service, being assured that even if they have participated in the offering of the bribe they will not be proceeded against by Government or prosecuted for having acted as abettors, provided that they know the truth about the officers concerned. It is in regard to these aspects that I am asking my honourable friend, if he has got proof, not flinch from disclosing the actual facts. If he has not got proof, no names should be mentioned in this House.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, I wanted to place before the House the difficulty the people of Vilavankod taluk will have to undergo.

All that I wanted was to place before the House the difficulties experienced by the people of the Vilavankod taluk. That taluk has a number of pattadars who own lands under the Oodukur tenure. Many of them do not have actual possession of lands for which pattas are in their names. It is that that leads to difficulty. Although I have no fear to collect evidence, if necessary, about the corruption of the officer I mentioned, I would rather not press that matter since I do not want any harm to be done to anybody.

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PRESIDENT: Honourable member has no right, while discharging his responsibility, to consider what harm might be done to anybody else.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: I would rather withdraw the allegation I made against the particular officer, Sir; I merely wanted to stress the suffering on the part of the people.

PRESIDENT: That again is a matter which may not give the head of the administration real help in matters of this kind. Almost daily I am receiving letters that such and such an officer is guilty of taking bribes, that just two days before, a particular judgement was delivered, that the judge received such and such amount as bribe, etc. But the moment I asked for proof, or start investigation, the person who wrote the letter withdraws his letter and says "I do not want to injure the officer concerned". My point is, if honourable members and the Government have to co-operate in purging this country of corruption, if it exists, the questions that A or B may have to suffer, or that the education of the grand children of X or Y might be interrupted, those are not matters which must stand in the way of honourable members.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: In my experience there are not many Revenue officers who are corrupt; there are only stray instances. As I said, I have no objection to adduce the necessary evidence if the Government are very particular: that is not very difficult.

PRESIDENT: I realise your point.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Sir, I also support this motion. The very same topic came up for discussion during last Budget Session also, as the depression due to fall in price of the agricultural produce and consequent inability of the tax payer were keenly felt by all. Our Government, not only did stay the coercive steps taken for realisation of tax, but also gave a land revenue remission and allowed time to pay the arrears. The conditions have not changed and the tax payer is in the same plight this year also. Hence, the cause being the same, Government may even make a remission in land tax this year as well. If it is not possible, the tax payer may be given time till Thulam 1115 for the payment of the tax for this year, suspending all coercive steps taken hitherto for the realisation of tax.

A word more about the demand notices, Sir. Too many demand notices are issued at a cost of two chackrams, more than the actual cost. I know instances in which, a tax payer who has to pay seven chackrams as tax, having paid six chackrams as charge of demand notices. Hence I suggest that the Government may be pleased to order the issue of demand notices by anchal alone at the actual costs. That will be proper service.

The Tahsildars may be directed to sell properties or portions of the same, just sufficient to realise the tax, leaving a margin of course. Generally no descretion is exercised by them in selling properties. About 36 cents of cocoanut garden land, in the Alleppey town, with an

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annual yielding capacity of 3000 nuts, was sold by a Tahsildar for realising Rs. 3. If this is the descretion, to be used by a responsible officer, the tax payer has no safety. The department is driving the man from his homestead, instead of protecting him.. The Tahsildars may be directed and strict orders may be issued to sell properties, just sufficient to realise the tax on it, in case he has to sell at all.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: At the outset I may inform the House that coercive steps are not intended to harass the tax payers but merely as a corrective, to induce them to pay promptly. No person who pays the tax in time need fear of demand notices nor other processes.

The question would arise "why is it that people do not pay in time ?" There are reasons. Firstly, some people are not able to pay. Going into the system of land tenure here, I find that a great per cent of our tax payers pay less than one rupee per annum. In the question of remission, even when only a small fraction of tax is remitted, while the Government lose four or five lakhs, many of the tax payers do not get any substantial benefit; those who are poor, do not get practically any benefit out of these remissions. All the same, Government, in recent years, as a sort of gesture, have been granting liberal remission of land tax. Even last year the Dewan-President announced that people who pay up the arrears of 1113 during the course of 1114, would get the benefit of the remission. Concessions were granted partly in 1113 and partly in 1114; the total extent of concessions during these years amounted to Rs. 5 lakhs odd. Who got the benefit ? It is only the top pattadars, rich men who may not stand in need of the relief ; the poor pattadars did not feel the relief.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I ask the honourable member whether the argument that he is advancing is a new one, which has special application for this year ?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I admit, Sir, that it is not a new argument.

Sir, during my tour, I have had talks with the people, about these remissions. A rich pattadar was able to tell me "I pay annually Rs. 4,000 by way of tax. This year I need pay Rs. 500 less." At the same time, the masses told me "after all what is the benefit that we, poor people, have derived from your remissions ? I pay only a tax of seven chuckrams per annum, and so I do not gain more than one chuckram." I may inform the House that more than 50 per cent. of our tax payers pay less than rupee one per annum. So, as I said these remissions do not help the people who really deserve it; it is a ase of "To him that has more shall be given."

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[Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao.]

Coercive processes, as I said, are intended only as a corrective. Unpunctual payment may be due to negligence on the part of the tax payer, or his ignorance of rules; also the Proverthicar would not have cared to go to the pattadars and collect the tax. Under the present rules tax has to be paid to the Proverthicar at his office. I have always been telling the people of the country that the rules relating to the payment of tax should be strictly adhered to. I have also been telling my subordinates that they should go about and collect taxes. I have also given them strict instructions to the effect that as far as possible they should attach only movable property; because the attachment of immovable property is really a hardship. I am sure that is resorted to only where there is persistent default. During the last nine months, about 600 cases have come to my notice in regard to such sales of properties for arrears of tax; and I am sure honourable members are aware how I have been dealing with those cases. I may inform Mr. Narayana Kurup that I have advised the Tahsildars to be more careful in the sales of immovable properties for arrears of tax.

Sir, it was suggested that time may be granted, for the payment of this year's tax, at least up to the end of Kanni 1115. This was tried once during the days of the last Dewan. It was found that, instead of helping the ryot, it only gave them an additional burden; they had two taxes to pay at the same time. If a person cannot pay Re. 1 now how is he going to pay Rs. 2 next year? As long as the present land revenue system exists, as long as the people have to pay land tax, the system of coercive processes for the recovery of taxes, and the issue of demand notices have to be there too. The question of reducing the cost of demand notices was considered; Government came to the conclusion that it need not be reduced. I must say I am not able to understand or appriciate the argument that coercive processes should be altogether stopped. It is like saying 'that a man will thieve but should no be punished.'

As regards irrigularities on the part of some Tahsildars, I may inform the House that, whenever specific cases are brought to my notice, I deal with them severely.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: What is the actual cost of a demand notice?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Ordinarily, four chuckrams; if the tax is less than one rupee it is two chuckrams.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether Government accept as valid payment a tax paid under a receipt given not in the prescribed form?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: No. Unfortunately during my travels a person produced a false receipt and I had to deal with that matter.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Am I to take it from the Land Revenue Commissioner that it is the declared policy of Government that payments made not under the prescribed form of receipt will not be considered as valid payments?

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MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Yes.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: May I know from the member the the total amount collected by way of demand notices ?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: About Rs. 60,000.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: I beg permission to withdraw the motion.

The motion, by leave, was withdrawn.

Motion Nos. 25 & 26.

The following motions were not moved :—

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI :

25. "To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1."

MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI :

26. "To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1."

Motion No. 27.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: I move that the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner be reduced by Re. 1. The object of my motion is to suggest that the system of land tax as it exists to-day be reorganised on the principle of income tax. I am not making this suggestion for the first time in this House. Ever since 1108, that is, ever since I had the privilege of becoming a member, I have been repeatedly offering this suggestion and I have been repeatedly opposed by the Government. Most probably I will have to repeat the same arguments in favour of my motion and I expect the same reply will come from the Land Revenue Commissioner. But, Sir, on this occasion I rise with greater hopes because on more than one occasion remarks have fallen from the head of the administration that the present system of Land Revenue deserves reconsideration. When the Government themselves feel that a reconsideration of this system of taxation is necessary, I think I can more hopefully offer suggestions about the method in which the system may be modified.

The apparent injustice in the present system of land tax is in its inflexibility. That is a thing which everybody can see. The income may go up, the income may go down ; yet the tax remains immutable. There have been cases where income has disappeared. For example, if we go to Central Travancore, to the taluks of Karunagapally and Karthikapally and other places, we will find compounds which were extremely fertile and where cocoanut plants were yielding and perhaps yielding best in Travancore, now absolutely waste. The pest has attacked the trees and trees themselves have disappeared ; but the tax continues. I may go a step further and say that there are instances where the land itself has disappeared. The sea has washed away lands; rivers have sweft off lands. I have just now received a letter from a

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[Mr. Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai.]

friend of mine from Aranmula saying that from the Aranmula temple up for a distance of three-fourth of a mile, river Pamba has been robbing land bit by bit. Though the land itself has disappeared the land tax continues. Irrespective of the fact what income is derived from the land, irrespective of the fact if any income is derived and irrespective of the fact whether the land itself exists, the tax continues. That is an apparent injustice which is perceivable to everybody.

Another point I want to emphasise is the great variety of taxes that fall upon the head of an agriculturist. If you have got a piece of land you must pay tax, if you improve the land you must pay tax on the improvement, if any produce is raised again the produce is taxed. Almost every indirect tax ultimately falls upon the agriculturist. You, Sir, told us the other day, and from the budget we know that the Excise duty on tobacco has been increased. The merchant at once increases the value of the tobacco. He always sees that a margin of profit goes into his hands. Thus even the export duty and the import duty fall upon the head of the poor agriculturist.

Another point which I want to bring to the attention of the Government is that there is a kind of invidious distinction between the land owner and any person who invests his money in any thing except land. I may have any amount of money, I may invest my money in a bank, in commerce or industry, I can do anything with that money and yet be free from tax unless I get an income above Rs. 2,000. But for merely possessing a piece of land I am asked to pay a tax. The land may be merely to lay my head on. It may be for myself and my family to live. By the system as it exists to-day if a person is penalised for the mere act of buying the land while other men are free to invest their money in any other concern other than in land and be free from tax. It is a kind of open discouragement of investing money in land. That is one side of the picture. There is another side. An agriculturist will find that his position is more and more advantageous as he goes higher and higher. If he finds that his position is sad, when he is at the bottom, it is quite fortunate when he goes high. For example, a person can have vast areas of land, he may be an Over Lord of a taluk, he may get abnormal income from land and at the same time he will have to pay nothing but land tax. A merchant whose income is Rs. 2,000 or more has to pay income tax. The land owner's income may be immensely greater and yet he need not pay anything more than the land tax. Therefere it is apparent that there is a defect in the system as it exists to-day. The only way by which we can overcome the injustice consequent on the fluctuations of the price of the produces and the fluctuations of the produce itself is to bring land tax on a par with income tax. The income of the land has to be taken into account and the land to be left free.

I must suggest one thing more. Suppose a man buys a piece of land and leaves it uncultivated. I would suggest penal taxation for it

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In another case a person may buy 5 cents of land to put up a small hut. There we should apply only the rule of income. I would suggest that in the case of land, perhaps the minimum may be fixed even at a lower level. Now we tax an income above Rs. 2,000. The average income of a person in this country according to the census, is Rs. 50 and the average number of members in a family is five. So the average income of a family comes to Rs. 250. Any person whose income exceeds Rs. 250 may pay a small tax to Government. Any person who does not get that income should be left free. I submit these suggestions for the deep consideration of Government.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR: I rise to make a few observations as regards the incidence of land tax. It is a matter which is bound up with the history of Travancore and Kerala. Only a few tenures will be referred to. It is taken for granted that all the lands belonged to jenmies having been granted to them by Parasurama. It is only later that the right of the Soverign or Government stepped in. Thus in Travancore we have only two species of tenures generally, one jenmom land and the other Government or Pandaravaka land. Among jenmom lands there are two varities; free hold jenmom lands that are absolutely exempt from taxation by Government like the free hold of the Eadapalli Chief, the Vanjipuzha Chief, the Punjar Chief and the Kilimanoor Chief. As regards intermediatory or ordinary jenmom land it has been the immemorial custom in Travancore to impose such lands with Rajabhogam as soon as they are leased or assessed for a money consideration. If such land passes from hand to hand the land passes with the Rajabhogam fixed upon it. So far as Pandaravaka lands are concerned, till 1040 there was no fixity of tenure in Travancore. These lands were redeemable and the holders were mere tenants-at-will. It was the Royal Proclamation during the time of Sir T. Madhava Rao called the Magna Carta of Travancore that fixity of tenure conferred. A tax was imposed which is still called Pandaravaka Pattom. So that here also when lands are transferred, they are transferred with the fixed rent or pattom, which in theory is a share of the produce over them. When a person purchases land he is purchasing it with the burden of land tax on it. Thus knowing the history of Travancore and Kerala it has to be conceded that when a person purchases a land he purchases the liability also upon it. Yesterday, when you, Sir, referred to the question of export duty, an honourable member said that it was a right rather onerous and burdensome which Travancore and other States had. Similarly when lands are purchased there is the liability also attached to it.

Passing on to certain difficulties referred to by Mr. Padmanabha Pillai, may I refer to a counter-illustration. A piece of land might have been registered in the name of an individual as waste land. He improves it and enjoys it as planted land paying the old waste land tax.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: May I know from the member whether that is not a reason for changing the system?

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MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR : I am giving a counter-illustration. That was the system which was in vogue for a long time. I am an agriculturist myself and am interested in all agricultural produce grown in the State. I have very great sympathy with that Mr. Padmanabha Pillai said. But let us look at the other side of the picture.

Sir, there are very great practical difficulties in modulating land tax on the lines of income tax. For income tax a D form notice is given and statements are made and accounts are called for. The office decides what tax is to be levied on a particular person. In the matter of levying tax on lands on the lines of income tax, if accounts are called for we can't get any figures. It is very rarely that an agriculturist in Travancore keeps accounts. An agriculturist may be a tapioca grower. There will be no necessity for him to maintain accounts for the income or expenditure on account of tapioca. Mr. Padmanabha Pillai might have read that the tobacco cultivators of Trichinopoly recently struck work unable to keep the prescribed accounts.

PRESIDENT : Evidently, the inhabitants of the Madras Presidency are forced to keep proper accounts in view of the recently instituted sales tax.

MR. S. KRISHNA AIYAR : They may even have to get the services of a chartered accountant to maintain the prescribed books. It is very difficult to get proper accounts from the agriculturists of Travancore to assess income from agriculture. In the case of a paddy cultivator we have to take very many factors into account before he is taxed. How much he gets, what he spends, prices and what he gets. If these matters are likely to be scrutinised they must be scrutinised in a court of law. Witnesses for and against have to be cited, examined and cross-examined, it must again be taken up to the appellate authorities that is the chief revenue authority. It is beset with very great practical difficulties. I do not say that the new system is impossible to be worked out. While I have great sympathy with the principle propounded by Mr. Padmanabha Pillai that the principle of assessment for land tax and income tax should be the same, I have to sound a note of warning that it has very great practical difficulties and it will not be practical politics for the administration to tax land on the lines of income tax.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANA PILLAI : Sir, I have very great pleasure in supporting the proposal made by Mr. Padmanabha Pillai. At the time when the income tax was introduced in the State, it was stated that land tax was getting oppressive and that merchants and industrialists were exempted from paying any sort of tax. Popular representations were submitted during the repeated sessions of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and to Government requesting them to introduce income tax. At the time of first introducing the income tax in Travancore, no doubt, there were difficulties in the production of accounts, for in those times the average Indian merchant was not in

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the habit of keeping his accounts in the proper form. But those difficulties have now disappeared and now the system of assessing income tax is working very satisfactorily and there has been no difficulty whatso-ever in submitting satisfactory accounts as far as honest and respectable business men are concerned. If dishonest people conduct themselves differently they are paying the penalty. Sir, I find that the earliest record available in Travancore in regard to the method of assessment was in 1030 M. E. The first settlement was begun in the year 1883 and completed in 1911. Now 28 years have elapsed since the completion of that settlement. And during those 28 years much water has flown under the bridge. The financial problems affecting the prosperity of every State have undergone radical changes in their outlook. And now I ask, has not the time come to consider whether we should stick on to the old financial methods or whether we should depart from it and change the system of assessing tax from lands? A steady income for the Government is always to be welcomed. But the levy of the present rate of land tax is not at all satisfactory to the interests of the ryots. Year in and year out, Government hear complaints from the tax payers that they are unable to pay land tax and agreeably with those opinions Government are sanctioning remissions. Then, why not make the ryot pay only a proportion of what he gets from his land? This is after all not a new or novel departure. This has been followed elsewhere. Even in Ceylon we understand this system of assessing land tax on the principle of income tax assessment is adopted, but the minimum taxable income may be less. The cocoanut cultivator and other cultivators have only to submit their accounts in proper form so that they may be taxed according to their agricultural income. The one great difficulty that stands in the way of adopting this method is the cry that is heard everywhere "that it is dangerous to state finances". Sir, here is a cry from a very large section of the people of the country that they are heavily taxed and that they require some relief. Let us give them the relief in this form. Some time ago I suggested in this House that instead of giving the ryots continuous concessions in the matter of paying tax by way of remissions, Government should be prepared to return to the agriculturists a substantial portion in the form of subsidies as is done in England and U. S. A.

PRESIDENT: That system exists in England even from the very beginning of agriculture in that land.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANA PILLAI: Sir, my submission is that it is for the Government to see whether it will not be more fair and equitable to ask the agriculturists to pay tax out of the income which he gets from his properties. If this is done much of the discontent that we find in the country would certainly disappear. I, therefore, have great pleasure in placing this matter for the very kind consideration of the Government and this House.

Mr. Krishna Aiyar said the question is beset with difficulties especially in regard to accounts. The fact is that the present day agriculturist does not feel the necessity for maintaining proper accounts.

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[Mr. M. L. Janardhana Pillai.]

so long as he has to pay a definite amount of tax year after year where is the need for keeping proper accounts of his income from the land? Sir, the landed class in this country is much more educated than the landed class elsewhere. Government are proposing to supply a new form of education which will ensure the general well being of the country with a new orientation.

I am sure it will not be impossible for Government to devise some workable scheme to adopt this suggestion. But then I do admit that it is very difficult for any Government to get out of the established system of collecting tax. But I say in all sincerity and with all the earnestness that I can command, that the subject is one which must be very carefully considered by Government sooner or later this question will have to be tackled by Government and the sooner the better.

PRESIDENT: With regard to this question there are certain aspects which must be considered and threshed out on the floor of this House. The matter has been engaging the attention of Government but it is bound up with the system of land tenure obtaining in the country. Supposing you are to grade a certain area of land for assessing tax according to the principle of assessment adopted in taxing incomes. If that holding is fragmentised into plots less than ½ acre then you will not be able to get any tax from the land. What is there to prevent the members of a family from partitioning their land? Perhaps each member of the family may get ¼ of an acre and that could not be taxed. Unless there is a system of compulsory consolidation at least for a certain purpose this could not be brought into effect. Again, it requires social legislation. This question has been engaging the very anxious attention of Government. The problem is how it is to be worked out and brought into operation. On the one hand there is the settlement. During the next settlement a levelling down will have to be effected in view of the economic depression and certain other circumstances. Apart from the settlement we will have to exempt from taxation lands below a certain area. In order to exempt lands below a certain level we will have to take into consideration the present system of land tenure and the magnitude of the holding. These are the side aspects of the question to be considered. The honouroble member will bear these facts in mind and deal with the problem.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI: Sir, this is one of the most important questions brought forward in this House. I understand that the object of the motion is to do away with the land tax altogether and not merely to impose a tax on agricultural income. Sir, land tax is a share of the agricultural income which is exempted from the operation of the Income Tax Regulation. The learned mover of the motion I thought, had this object in view, namely, to stop the land tax altogether and in its place to introduce an income tax on this basis that I venture to offer my remarks. The question is very important and affects

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an ancient system of taxation : and, I must say, it has not been possible for the members of this House to bestow sufficient thought and attention upon this matter. In England and in several other countries in Europe, there is no land tax. This is probably due to the fact that these countries are highly industrialised and that there are several sources of income which can be taxed. In those countries the tax on land has become unimportant. India on the contrary is essentially an agricultural country and the people are not accustomed to any other kind of taxation excepting this tax on land. Even in the days of the Moghul Empire, we know that there were land revenue settlements and that it was a share of the produce of the land that was taken by the Government for their expenses. In those days there could have been no income tax or any other kind of tax. Whatever that be, the people of India were accustomed to a system of taxation evidently based on land. The idea of changing this system altogether and bringing into effect a system of taxation which is wholly foreign to this country, or for that matter, to the whole of India, is one which requires a great deal of thought, care and study. It is not possible, therefore on account of the numerous difficulties attendant on the change of such a system, to bring into effect any such principles of taxation in the near future. In India the whole fabric of administration is built upon a system of land tax. Take the case of Travancore. Here you have several kinds of tenures like the *Jenmi* and the *Pandaravaga*. In fact the complexity of our tenures is the first and most serious obstacle that confronts us at the outset, The Jenmies are allowed to hold the land in the place of the Sirkar and the Sirkar takes nothing from them. What are we to do with the rights of these Jenmies. Again, there are the Devaswoms owing lands, with regard to which the Sirkar has now become almost a trustee.

PRESIDENT : The same question would arise in British India under the Permanent Settlement. One of the methods which are now being contemplated there is the change of the system and replacing it by income tax.

MR. N. RAMAKRISHNA PILLAI : Of course, it may perhaps be possible to change the system, but I am pointing out the difficulties in changing the system in the immediate future. If the present system of land tax is discontinued there will be further difficulties which the Government will have to face. Fragmentation of the holdings which has been the result of the social legislation among the different communities in the State is another matter which makes the imposition and collection of taxes all the more difficult. On account of this, it is necessary to bring into force a system of taxation the incidence of which must fall equitably on all people. Take again the case, for instance, of the private trustees and those standing in the position of trustees. The Government have recognised their rights based on the possession of land. It is not easy to get over such difficulties which will have to be tackled with in order that a different system of taxation may be brought into effect. I submit that there is a better way of ameliorating the condition of the agricultural population of the country without changing the system of taxation. The settlement must be made a permanent

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[Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai.]

one like the Bengal Settlement and by the time the country becomes industrialised, it may be possible to tap other sources of revenue to make up for the loss of land revenue and to bring into force a more equitable system of taxation. Otherwise, we will be embarking on an experiment, the result of which we do not know and we cannot foresee. We do not know what the results of the change of the system of taxation in the British Indian Provinces will be. My view therefore is that before any such system is adopted, the present Settlement may be made permanent and without abolishing land tax altogether we may slowly bring into force a new system of taxation based upon the principles of the Income tax. Sir, I have not been able to devote much attention to this question and the few remarks that I have ventured to make are therefore merely superficial. I oppose the motion.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, as I am bound, under the party discipline, to associate myself with the arguments advanced by the leader of my party, I wish to make a few observations on the motion under discussion, especially with regard to the doctrine of vis-major and the havoc caused by the river Pampa and the consequent loss to the inhabitants on its southern bank for about 4 furlongs down the Aranmula Temple bathing ghat.

PRESIDENT: Order, order. The honourable member cannot possibly speak about the southern bank of a river in dealing with the question of travelling allowance excepting by way of very indirect illustration.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, it is just to convince this House particularly of the inequity that is being experienced by the tax payers as a result of the present land revenue system that I made the reference.

Sir, the Land Revenue Commissioner was pleased to inform us that the act of vis—major will be leniently considered by Government. To convince this House that leniency was not shown to the suffering public in the manner he has stated I will state a few facts. Last time, the inhabitants of this locality submitted a written representation to the Government direct, complaining of the havoc that was being committed by the river Pampa and the loss they are subjected to thereby. A copy of that representation, forwarded to me by the people in the capacity of their representative, was also submitted by me to the Government with the hope that the people in the locality may get some benefit in the matter. Curiously enough, after the expiry of a period of one year; that is just four or five days before the commencement of this Session of the Assembly, I got an official letter from the Huzur Office to the effect that the havoc and the loss could have been averted if the public of the locality had only cared to take the necessary precautions in time, by spending their own money. This appears to be very curious way of satisfying the needs of the people.

PRESIDENT: There is only half an hour more for this cut motion. So, the honourable member will confine his remarks to the relevant points.

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MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI : I wonder why a Government like the Travancore Government, which has been pleased to give us each issue of the Government Gazette in two parts, one part especially set apart for the publication of revenue sales could not comply with the request of the people or show some gesture of sympathy and kindness to them. Only with a view to bring this matter to your notice, Sir, that I support this motion.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI : It is admitted by all the honourable members of this House that there is a cry for remissson of tax year after year. It is admitted that during the last 28 years there was no revision of land tax in Travancore, The last settlement was completed 28 years ago and during this period large tracts of land were exploited and improved and certainly more income is being now derived from these lands. Therefore, it is only just for the Government to ask the big land owners to pay something more to them by way of tax. As the Dewan President suggested the fragmentation of land is very patent in Travancore than anywhere else in the world. We have to admit that there is something fundamentally wrong in the system of taxation of land in Travancore. While we have to find out a way out of the difficulty, there is no good in relegating it to the background and say that we have to wait for some time more. We have to meet the problem some day or other. If some legislative enactment is necessary, by all means have it. There is no meaning in evading and escaping the problem. It is to be admitted that there is something wrong.

PRESIDENT : If the lands in Travancore can be divided into five-acre holdings, there will be no difficulty in bringing this into operation. That is the whole position.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI : I only want to bring to the notice of this House that something has to be done for the purpose of reassessment of tax. Why not some new principle be adopted ?

PRESIDENT : What is the new principle that is suggested ?

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI : Just the principle that has been enunciated in the cut motion. Why not that be adopted ?

MR. E. E. PANDARATHIL : So far as the principle of this motion is involved, Sir, my friend Mr. Nambuthiripad represents one of the accident of history. The Jenmies came into existence because they were the pioneers of the social workers and acted in co-operation with the people of the land.

Some how or other they have come to stay and even with the Amendment Act of 1108 their position will be such. Incidentally I have also to mention that the settlement of Jenmikaram is still under way. It is also a fact that our land tenure is still in an inperfect stage which has not given complete satisfaction to all parties concerned. I do not propose to expatiate on the other aspects of the question. However, I would request the House to consider the redemption of jenmies, both financially and figuratively, when the question of reform of taxation is taken up.

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MR. N. VELU ACHARI : ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മെംബർ അവതരിപ്പിച്ച ഉപക്ഷേപത്തിൽ അടങ്ങിയിരിക്കുന്ന സംഗതി ഒരാദരണീയമായ ആശയംതന്നെയാണെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കാം. പക്ഷെ അതു പ്രയോഗികമാകുമോ എന്നു സംശയിക്കുന്നു. ഈ നാട്ടിലെ സ്ഥായിയായ ഒരു വരവു് ഭൂമിയിൽനിന്നും ആണു്. നമ്മുടെ രാജ്യത്തു് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ള ഭൂനികുതി സ്ഥായിയും സ്ഥിരവുമായ ഒരു വരവാണു്. വ്യവസായം കച്ചവടം മുതലായ ഇനങ്ങളിലുള്ള നികുതി ഏറ്റവും തുച്ഛമായിമാത്രമെ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു കിട്ടുന്നുള്ളു. അതു സ്ഥായിയായ വരവും അല്ലല്ലോ. പുറനാട്ടു സാമാനങ്ങളുടെ ഇറക്കുമതിയും അതിൻെറ ഇവിടത്തെ ചെലവും തന്നാട്ടുസാമാനങ്ങളുടെ ഏറുമതിയും വ്യവസായത്തിൻെറ അഭിവൃദ്ധിയും അപ്പോഴപ്പോഴുള്ള സാമ്പത്തികനിലയും അനുസരിച്ചു മാത്രമെ വ്യവസായത്തിലും കച്ചവടത്തിലുമുള്ള നികുതി കിട്ടുകയുള്ളു. അപ്പോൾ സ്ഥായിയായ വരവിനെ സ്ഥിരമല്ലാത്ത ഇൻകംടാക്സ് അഥവാ ആദായനികുതി ഇനത്തിൽ ചേക്കുന്നതു് ഒരിക്കലും അഭിലഷണീയമായിട്ടുള്ളതല്ലെന്നു വിചാരിക്കേണ്ടിയിരിക്കുന്നു.

ഇതിൻെറ ഉദ്ദേശം നല്ലതാണെങ്കിലും അതു പ്രായോഗികമായി കൊണ്ടുവരാൻ പ്രയാസമാണെന്നാണു് തോന്നുന്നതു്. പ്രായോഗികമല്ലാതിരിക്കാനുള്ള കാരണത്തെപ്പറ്റി പല മെംബറന്മാരും ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകഴിഞ്ഞു. മി. എൻ. രാമകൃഷ്ണപിള്ള വിശദമായ ചില നിരൂപണങ്ങൾ അതിനെപ്പറ്റി ചെയ്യുകയുണ്ടായി. ഭൂമിയിൽ കരം ചുമത്തുന്നതു അതിൽനിന്നു ലഭിക്കുന്ന വരുമാനത്തെ കണക്കാക്കിയും അല്ലാതേയും ആയിരിക്കും. ചില ഭൂമി കൃഷിക്കു ഉപയോഗപ്പെടാതിരുന്നാലും നികുതി ചുമത്തുന്നുണ്ടു്. ചില ഭൂമികളിൽ കൃഷി ചെയ്യാതിരുന്നാലും നികുതി ഈടാക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇൻകംടാക്സ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തിയാൽ ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള വരുമാനത്തെ എങ്ങനെ നിർണ്ണയിക്കാൻ കഴിയും? അതുകൊണ്ടു് നല്ലതുപോലെ ആലോചിച്ചല്ലാതെ ഈ ഏർപ്പാടു നടപ്പിൽ കൊണ്ടുവരാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഇതിനെപ്പറ്റി ഉടനടി തീരുമാനിക്കാവുന്നതുമല്ല. ഇതു് ദീർഘകാലത്തെ ആലോചനയ്ക്കു വിടുന്നതു നന്നായിരിക്കും. ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ എതിർക്കുന്നു.

MR. T. T. KESAVAN SASTRI : സർ, ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. രാജ്യത്തിൻെറ പേരിനും ജനങ്ങളുടെ വളർച്ചക്കും ഒരു പോലെ അഭിവൃദ്ധിയെ കൊടുക്കാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം പര്യാപ്തമാണു്.

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ആദായത്തിന്റെ തോതനുസരിച്ച് കരം ചുമത്തുന്ന നയം ഒരു പുതുമയും ഉപകാരവുമായിത്തീരും. രാജ്യത്തെ സമ്പന്നങ്ങൾക്കും ഈ പരിഷ്കാരം സംതൃപ്തിനൽകുന്നതായിരിക്കും. ആദായം കൂടുതൽ കിട്ടുന്നവർക്ക് അവർഹിക്കുന്ന വിധത്തിൽ നികുതിയായി കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുന്നില്ല. പട്ടിണികിടന്നും ഈ നയം അംഗീകൃതമായാൽ ഇപ്രകാരം നികുതി നൽകാൻ ജനങ്ങൾ പ്രേരിതരാകുന്നതുമാണ്. വരുമാനത്തിന്റെ തോതു് അനുസരിച്ചുള്ള നികുതി ഈടാക്കൽ നിശ്ചയമായും ആരും സ്വാഗതം ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കയില്ല. ഇതു ഇടംപ്രഥമമായ ഒരഭിപ്രായമാകയാൽ മിക്കവാറും പ്രതികൂലാഭിപ്രായങ്ങൾ പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കുന്നവരും ഉണ്ടാകാവുന്നതാണല്ലോ. എന്നാൽ ഈ നയം പ്രായോഗികമല്ലാ എന്നും വൈഷമ്യമേറിയ ഒരു പ്രശ്നമാണെന്നും മറും ചില മെമ്പേഴ്സ് തീർത്തു് അഭിപ്രായപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതായി കാണുന്നു. ഗവണ്മെൻറും ഈ വിഷയത്തിൽ ഒരു തീരുമാനം ചെയ്താൽ ആശങ്കകൾക്കു സ്ഥാനമില്ലാതായിത്തീരാനാണിടയുള്ളതു്. ഏതായാലും വലിയവരുടേയും ചെറിയവരുടേയും താല്പര്യങ്ങൾക്കു ഒരുപോലെ ഉപകാരപ്രദമായ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം പാസാകയും നടപ്പിൽ വരുകയും ചെയ്വാൻ താല്പര്യപ്പെട്ടുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ അനുകൂലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Arguments both for and against have been advanced in regard to this problem. But there are some practical difficulties in the working of this question, in view of the complicated system of land tenures existing in this State. There are favourable tenures as well as fragmentary tenures. The income under Land Revenue is almost a fixed income. When I was the Financial Secretary for some time, I worked out the figures consequent on the proposition. A revenue to the extent of 7 lakhs may be secured thereby. The honourable members have to bear in mind that that was only a rough calculation. That being the case we must be prepared to forego a sum to the extent of 33 lakhs, from the income under Land Revenue.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: May I point out that we are not prepared to admit that that calculation was done on the right lines.

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: All that I say is, I worked out that proposition and the result arrived at was that about 7 lakhs could be secured thereby. Secondly, in the matter of collection of that tax, the machinery required for the collection will be a difficult problem. There are lands in each pakuthi. A number of persons will have to be employed to asses the income on those lands. These are practical difficulties. Thirdly, such a system exists nowhere in India. India is an

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[Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao.]

agricultural country and Travancore is also like that. It is well known that land is the back-bone of the peasantry. Any departure from the existing practice of taxation has to be taken with very great care. Moreover, it is from Land Revenue, the contribution to the Devaswom Department is effected. At the moment I can suggest one remedy and it is a re-settlement. That will level up the whole system of land taxation. Another point is, with the development of industry and commerce some relief could be got with reference to land revenue.

MR. S. KRISHNA IYAR: May I ask what a re-settlement will cost for the whole of Travancore?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: About 80 lakhs of rupees.

So then the remedy is this. An industrial development which has fortunately commenced will ease the situation. If the industrial and commercial advancements work for a period of ten years, there will be immense relief under land revenue. My submission is that this proposition may wait for a decade when Travancore will become an industrially advanced country. Till then that question cannot be considered. Under these circumstances, I request the mover to withdraw his motion for the present and renew it after ten years.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Is it the member's view that this problem should be left as it is and not tackled at all?

MR. M. RAMACHANDRA RAO: I have already said that a re-settlement will do something in the direction of improvement towards the object aimed at by the mover.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Sir, I did not bring this proposition under any illusion. I have no doubt that there are practical difficulties which Government have to face in tackling this problem I do not believe that it is an easy proposition. But one thing I must say. It is a difficulty worth facing. I do not agree with the observation made by Mr. Velu Achari that it is an impracticable proposition. It is practicable, though it is certainly difficult. A mere re-settlement will not solve the problems I have pointed out. That will repeat the same laws. It is a modification of the system that I want. Government have to face this problem whether there is the industrial development or not. It may or may not take place. The point is that the land-holders in the country are put to hardship on account of the system of taxation and therefore I am placing their grievances before Government. There is no use shelving the problem till the industrial development takes place. Mr. Krishna Iyer remarked that the agriculturist do not keep accounts. As for that matter, I can say from my personal knowledge that the best method to make them write accounts is to introduce this change. In my lifetime I never wrote accounts until I was asked to pay income-tax.

PRESIDENT: For industrial and commercial purposes two sets of accounts are maintained.

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MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI My request to Government therefore is that this is a problem which Government must face. If not to-day to-morrow Government will have to face this problem. Looking at the motion sheet I find that several members had tabled motions for the remission of land tax though they had the goodness not to move them. Every year this problem has cropped up. No doubt there is real difficulty in working out this proposition. But Government ought not to postpone this question until the country is industrialised. Hence I have to press this motion.

PRESIDENT: Before this motion is put to vote, I wish to say a few words. As I have said, there are many circumstances which have rendered this problem more difficult in Travancore than anywhere else. Elsewhere in British India, there are permanent settled tracts, ryotwari tracts and certain intermediate tenures. So far as permanently settled estates are concerned, land tax as such has ceased to be of any significance. The tax that was levied between the years 1790 to 1795 has remained static. When the permanent settlement was started, the dues to Government were supposed to be fixed at 25 or 30 or 35 per cent. of the produce of the land. The position has changed radically and permanent settlement has meant a serious lack of elasticity in revenue. Attempts are being made elsewhere to modify the system directly or indirectly and the introduction of the system here will be a retrograde step. It is permanent settlement that has rendered, for instance, the revenues of Bihar and of Bengal and a great deal of the revenues of the United Provinces, so inelastic that the Provinces have been unable to face present demands. Assuming that the present system continues what follows? Without a re-settlement we cannot deal with the problem of levelling up and levelling down land tax. The obvious reason, as I pointed out on a previous occasion, is this, that in certain parts of the country vast tracts of land have escaped taxation, others have newly come under taxation, whereas there are strenuous members from the southern tracts of the country who never tire of saying that they are amongst the most highly taxed localities in India. However, they might have originated there are many inequalities now and a re-settlement is necessary if equitable results have to be achieved. But a re-settlement has got two or three difficulties. Firstly, there is the tremendous cost of it. There should be a scientific re-survey of the whole country and it will take about 6 or 7 years at least to finish, according to scientific methods, and a scientific settlement has to follow. A re-survey and a re-settlement are expected to cost something like a crore of rupees. It is probably worth while embarking on that. But there are obvious difficulties and it has been considered that in these days of economic depression no such process should be started. From some experience of re-settlement elsewhere I may say that people will start saying that Government are out to place the unfortunate tenant and that the whole scheme is to get more revenue. As a matter of fact it may lead to loss of revenue in some localities and extra revenue in some other localities.

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[President.]

So far as the question of agricultural income tax is concerned, honourable members may remember that I indicated sometime ago that the matter is one which must engage the attention of legislators here and elsewhere, because that question will have to be faced sooner or later. But in order to face it there are certain things necessary. That is, it must be made fool-proof. So far as the accounts of business are concerned we know where we are. We may exempt all incomes below a certain level and tax incomes above that level. Even in such cases evasions are common. Quite recently members of the same family formed themselves sub-partnerships and joint stock companies and successfully avoided super-tax. The Legislature has had to step in and deal with this question. There are many difficulties attendant upon the imposition of income tax on lands in Travancore. The fundamental difficulty so far as Travancore is concerned is the size of the holdings. If we are going to have income tax for income, say of Rs. 20 a year, it must be recollected how many hundreds and thousands of functionaries would be necessary for the purpose of going round and collecting statistics as to whether people may get an income of Rs. 20 and whether that income has been actually realised. In Russia the Government took up all the land and then partitioned it out in large blocks especially in Ukraine, where they have some of the most fertile lands in the world. Other nations too have dealt with these problems. The moment we have large scale agricultural operations, income tax becomes a feasible problem. A small or fragmented agricultural holding makes it difficult for income tax to be collected. The best remedy is for the State to rely less and less upon agricultural tax and land tax and more upon other sources of revenue. In fact if things go well, I do fervently hope that the incidence of land tax here would get progressively less, until we are able to make up our revenue from other sources.

It is in that direction that our efforts should be turned. After all it must be remembered that we are in a peculiarly advantageous position. Our total income is over 2½ crores. The total land revenue is Rs. 40 lakhs. If, for instance, we can raise Rs. 20 lakhs otherwise, then honourable members may ask Government to lessen the land tax. That would be a feasible proposition. Government know the difficulties of the small land owners and will ever be sympathetic towards them. But the fundamental problem in dealing with the question of land tax which presses upon the most impoverished and struggling portion of the population is one of intensive cultivation and consolidation of holdings. The policy of Government will be to increase the income from other sources so that they may say—"We do not want so much by way of land tax."

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Sir, I withdraw the motion.

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

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Motions Nos. 28 to 68.

The following motions were not moved, the time allotted for the demand having expired ;

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR :
28. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR :
29. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR :
30. To reduce the allotment of Rs 23,535 for Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner by Re. 1.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN :
31. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,860 for Assistant Peishkars by Re. 1.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN :
32. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,860 for Assistant Peishkars by Re. 1.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY :
33. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 22,860 for Assistant Peishkars by Re. 1.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED :
34. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 86,702 for Establishment by Rs. 10.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN :
35. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 86,702 for Establishment by Re. 1.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :
36. To reduce the allotment of Rs 1,02,028 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR :
37. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,02,028 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR :
38. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,02,028 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN :
39. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,02,028 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM :
40. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,14,042 for Division Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM :
41. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re. 1.

MR. KOTTALIL P. ABRAHAM :
42. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re 1.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :
43. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re 1.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :
44. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re. 1.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN :
45. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re. 1.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN :
46. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re. 1.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :
47. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re. 1.

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MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY :
48. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 69,120 for Tahsildars by Re. 1.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED :
49. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,85,159 for establishment by Re. 1.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN :
50. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,52,590 for Salaries and Establishment by Re. 1.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :
51. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,41,595 for Taluk Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN :
52. To reduce the allotment of Rs 1,03,128 for Proverthicars by Re. 1.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN :
53. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,03, 128 for Proverthicars by Re. 1.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY :
54. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,03,128 for Proverthicars by Re. 1.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY :
55. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,03,128 for Proverthicars by Re. 1.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :
56. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 87,360 for Accountants by Re. 1.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN :
57. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 87,360 for Accountants by Rs. 4.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORATHARAKAN :
58. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 88,320 for Peons by Rs. 3.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :
59. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,11,816 for Proverthy Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN :
60. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,11,816 for Proverthy Cutcherries by Re. 1.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :
61. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,41,028 for Land Revenue by Rs. 5.

MR. K. R. NARAYANAN :
62. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,41,028 for Land Revenue by Rs. 5.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR
63. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,41,028 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. THARIATHU KUNJITHOMMEN :
64. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,41,028 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN :
65. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,41,028 for Land Revenue by Re. 1.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY :
66. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,41,028 for Land Revenue by Rs. 10.

MR. M. L. JANARDHANAN PILLAI :
67. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 40,521 for Taxes on Income by Re. 1.

MR. P. S. MUHAMED :
68. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 40,521 for Taxes on Income by Rs. 10.

The question that Government be granted a sum of Rs. 10,51,949 under Demand I—Land Revenue and taxes on income was put and carried.

The grant was made.

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DEMAND II—EXCISE DEPARTMENT—Rs. 6,90,435.

MR. M. P. JOSEPH: Sir, I beg to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 6,90,435 under Demand II—Excise Department.

Motion No. 69.

The following motion was not moved :—

MR. C. JEBAMONY NADAR :

69. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,900 for Inspectors by Re 1.

Motion No. 70.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir, I move "to reduce the allotment of Rs. 6,591 for salaries by Re. 1" to discuss the inadequate or improper supervision exercised in the matter of producing pure salt by allowing salt to be scraped in the morning and in the evening.

Sir, some time back I read a book on salt. It is written by one Mr. Rattan and it is available in the Legislative Library. I have jotted down a few sentences from that book called "Handbook of Common Salt" which are very pertinent to the subject. At page 32 of the book the author says—

> "Salt chrystals should invariably be gathered at the hottest period of the day, for as much sodium chloride can be gathered then, as in the cold of morning, since its solubility is but little affected by heat and at that time, there is the least chance of obtaining sodium or magnesium sulphate.
>
> "On the other hand, if salt is gathered in the morning these sulphates may be scraped with it, for if they form a nearly saturated solution by day, they will supersaturate it and deposit it in the cold of night."

Again, Mr. C. K. Das has written a booklet in salt. At page 18 of Bulletin No. XXX he says—

> "The collection of salt should be done when the sun is at its hottest, for at the temperature obtaining then, the magnesium sulphate whose solubility has risen will be completely in solution and whatever traces of it might have come down with the sodium during the cooler hours, would be removed."

Now, the present practice in all the factories, whether the Rajackamangalam factory or the factory of Mr. T. C. Kesava Pillai or the factory of the Deputy President of the Sri Mulam Assembly.....

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Deputy President*): Sir, may I point out that the Deputy President as such does not hold any factory ?

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Salt is scraped only in the morning and the evening. But, as a matter of fact, it must be scraped only during the hottest part of the day.

MR. M. P. JOSEPH: Sir, it is not a fact that salt is scraped in the morning and evening.

MR. K. NARAYANAPERUMAL NADAR: Sir, I am a man at the spot while the Excise Commissioner is living more than 42 miles away from the spot and the man on the spot must certainly be credited with knowing much better than a person residing 42 miles away. Moreover,

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[Mr. K. Narayanaperumal Nadar.]

I represent the people of Tamarakulam and as such I have been told by all the labourers that are working in the factories there that this is the practice. Therefore, the question before the House is whether they should give more wieght to the fact stated by me or to the statement made by the Excise Commissioner.

Now, Sir, salt is scraped in these factories in the morning and the evening. The reason is that if the salt is scraped in the morning and the evening the pay of the coolies will be very low. But if the salt is scraped, say, between 12 and 2, each labourer will have to be paid between 6 and 8 annas. Therefore, Sir, I bring to the notice of the House that salt should be scraped during the hottest part of the day and not in the morning or the evening.

With these words I move the motion.

MR. T. C. KESAVA PILLAI: Sir, I oppose the motion and I submit that so far as the Rajackamangalam Allom is concerned what Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar said in regard to scraping of salt is opposed to facts. First of all, I know that Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar is not a licensee, nor has he seen the scraping of salt in the factory as a visitor, with the permission of the Excise authorities. It is only secondary evidence which has to be discarded.

Sir, Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar wanted to impress on the authorities concerned this particular scientific fact. He has innocently brought a charge on the authorities as well as the licensees in South Travancore by suggesting that the salt scraped in those factories would affect the public health and safety of the people of Travancore. I am sure the department as well as the licensees would strictly follow the directions contained in the Standing Orders of the Department.

As regards the increment of wages that would be entailed if scraping is done at noon, what was stated by Mr. Narayanaperumal Nadar is not a fact. The cooly who goes to the salt factory at 7 o' clock in the morning returns at 2 o' clock in the aftermoon. So, it is easier for the licensees to employ coolies for scraping salt during the hottest part of the day rather than in the evening. It is very difficult to get a cooly in the evening because after a hard day's labour in the hot season, the cooly goes home at 3 in the afternoon, has his bath and after meal sleeps. So, it is not a fact. So I oppose the motion.

Along with that, I want to place one or two suggestions. The only defect I have been able to find is that in some of the old factories the density of the brine is affected by the percolation of fresh water.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR: Sir, I rise to controvert the statements of fact contained in the motion itself, and also the theory advanced by him in regard to the time of scraping of salt. Mr. Nadar has been telling us that in our salt factories scraping has been going on only in the morning and evening and that such practice should be condemned. That is not a fact. So far as my knowledge and experience go, scraping takes place all through the day; I can assert

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